

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the LIBRARY.



No. 3842.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1901.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS** in WATER COLOURS, 54, Pall Mall East, S.W. (near the National Gallery). 1900 SUMMER EXHIBITION NOW OPEN from 10 to 6. PERCY EDALL, Secretary.

**FANTIN-LATOUR and MUSIC.—EXHIBITION** of LITHOGRAPHS in relation to Music and Opera by Berlioz, Schumann, Wagner, &c., NOW OPEN at Mr. R. GUTTENSTADT'S GALLERY, 16, King Street, St. James's, S.W., 10-6, DAILY. Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

**ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.** (Incorporated by Royal Charter.) Patron—HIS MAJESTY THE KING. President—G. W. PROTHERO, Esq., Litt. D., LL.D.

THURSDAY, June 20, 5 P.M., at CLIFFORD'S INN HALL (Chancery Lane and Fleet Street), the following Paper will be read:—The Negotiations leading to the Peace of Landeville, 1801, by Miss L. N. ROBERTS. HUBERT HALL, Director and Hon. Sec. 3, Old Serjeants' Inn, Chancery Lane, E.C.

**THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE** and FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—A JOINT MEETING of the INSTITUTE and SOCIETY will be held at 3, HANOVER SQUARE, on WEDNESDAY, June 19, at 8.15 P.M., when a Collection of Muscular Headwork, presented by Miss M. A. Owen to the Society, will be exhibited. Papers by Mr. TREGAR, on 'The Spirit of Vegetation,' and by Mr. ASTON on 'Japanese Gobel' will also be read. N. W. THOMAS, Anthropological Institute. F. A. MILNE, Secretary, Folk-Lore Society. June 12, 1901.

**METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.** Patron—HIS MAJESTY THE KING. HOSPITAL SUNDAY, June 16, 1901. Any person unable to attend Divine Worship on that day is requested to send his or her Contribution to the Lord Mayor. Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed 'Bank of England,' and sent to the Mansion House.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LANGHAM PLACE, W. **PURCELL'S 'FAIRY QUEEN'** (Under the direction of Mr. J. S. SHEDLOCK). TO-DAY, JUNE 15, at 3.30 o'clock.

Vocalists: Miss EVANGELINE FLORENCE, Mr. DENIS O'SULLIVAN, Mr. JOHN STAFFORD. Chorus: THE PURCELL OPERATIC SOCIETY (by arrangement with Martin Falles Shaw and Edward Gordon Craig). Instrumentalists: Violin—Mr. SIGMUND BEEL. Viola 2nd—Mr. L. TAYLOR. Viola—Mr. S. J. WAUD. 'Cello—Mr. C. CORRI. Double Bass—Mr. J. H. WAUD. Trumpets—Messrs. W. MORROW and J. SOLOMON. Oboes—Messrs. W. MALSH and P. R. ROWE. Timpani—Mr. G. G. CLEATHER. Harpsichord—Mrs. ELIODIE DOLMETSCH and Mr. J. S. SHEDLOCK. Explanatory Comments—Mr. E. F. JACQUES. Tickets (10s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d.) to be obtained at St. George's Hall and of Mr. J. S. SHEDLOCK, 51, Gower Street.

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And at the GALLIGNANI LIBRARY, 224, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

**TO AUTHORS,** and all others whom it may concern.—In the matter of a Deed of Assignment for the benefit of Creditors by GEORGE WILLIAM REDWAY and PHILIP SINCLAIR WELBY, of 9, Hart Street, Bloomsbury, in the County of London, Publishers, trading under the style of GEORGE REDWAY, dated the 25th day of June, 1900. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That all Persons claiming any Books Printed or Published by, or Manuscripts deposited with, the above-named Debtors are required, on or before the 13th day of July, 1901, to give notice in writing of their claim to Henry Anderson Messieurs, of 19, Ludgate Hill, in the City of London, Publishers' Accountant, the Trustee under the above-mentioned Deed, and in default thereof the Trustee will proceed to sell the Books and Manuscripts found upon the Debtors' Premises, and distribute the proceeds of Sale amongst the Creditors whose claims have been duly made. Dated this 10th day of June, 1901. ASHURST, MORRIS, CRISP & CO., Solicitors for the said Trustee. 17, Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1901.

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## LITERATURE

*China and the Allies.* By A. Henry Savage-Landor. With Illustrations and Maps by the Author. 2 vols. (Heinemann.)

THIS is in many respects the most complete history of the recent crisis in China that has as yet appeared. Those circumstances of which the author has personal cognizance are accurately described, and he has carefully collected the facts relating to episodes (the siege of the Legations, for example) of which he has only second-hand knowledge. But it is to be regretted that he has not used equal discretion in transcribing Chinese proper names. It is admittedly difficult to avoid making mistakes of this kind, but a more hopeless confusion than he has contrived of the names of persons and places it would be difficult to imagine. If there are two emperors whose names are better known to Europeans than any others, they are those who were reigning during our campaigns in China in 1842 and 1860—Taokwang and Hienfeng or Hsienfeng. These two sovereigns he makes into Taokung and Sienfung. On different pages of his work he constantly spells the same name in different ways, and in one place he describes, and rightly so, Fei-ch'eng as the town near which Mr. Brooks was murdered, and on another page speaks of that being the name of the magistrate of the district. His references to Chinese history are equally unfortunate. On p. 277, vol. ii., he notices an image of Buddha which he tells us "was manufactured during the reign of Mu-uang (Muwang), of the Tchu (Chou) Dynasty." Muwang died in 947 B.C., and it is hardly necessary to mention that Buddha lived in the seventh and sixth centuries B.C.

It is the more surprising that Mr. Savage-Landor should have made a mistake as to the date of Buddha's existence, since the followers of the saint seem to exercise a peculiar fascination over him. He sees their hands in everything, and considers that the Boxer movement owes its origin to them. It will be remembered that he travelled in Tibet

some years ago, when he suffered much at the hands of Buddhist priests; and possibly the recollection of this journey may have disposed him to give undue importance to the very impotent priests of China. The movement was in no sense religious. It was what Sir Robert Hart calls a patriotic uprising, and was directed against foreigners generally, without any regard to creeds and nationalities. The Buddhist priests had no more to do with it than any other section of the community, and less than most.

Apart from this bias, Mr. Savage-Landor's account of the Boxer raid is accurate and interesting, and he describes with just surprise the curious ignorance as to its aims and importance which prevailed at the British Legation. He quotes a telegram from Sir C. Macdonald (May 20th), in which that official said that the Government was "sufficiently alarmed" at the outbreak, and that he did not therefore think it necessary to send for an additional guard. "In fact," writes Mr. Savage-Landor,

"incredible as it may seem, it appears that our representative at Peking always believed and concurred in the views of the last person who spoke to him, especially when he was being misinformed. Indeed, it is to be doubted whether on that date (May 27) there was any foreigner of any intelligence in China, other than officials, who was not fully aware that the Boxer movement was protected and supported by the Government."

Without accepting the personal references, which throughout the book are unnecessarily severe when Sir C. Macdonald is in question, we think that it must always remain a matter of surprise that better information was not available at the Legation. From all sides warnings were sent to the Ministers, and Father Favier's letter of monitory news, which Mr. Savage-Landor gives at length, is an instance of the valuable and unconsidered information which was before them.

Of Admiral Seymour's gallant attempts, in spite of overwhelming obstacles, to relieve the Legations the author gives a full and graphic account, and only in one instance does he, happily, make a mistake. In describing an attack on a village he states that while leading on his men Flag-Captain Jellicoe, of the *Centurion*, was "mortally wounded." His presence on the quarter-deck to-day fortunately refutes this rumour. But with this exception the record is trustworthy, and a valuable diary is included of the battles which raged around Tientsin. The havoc which was wrought during these engagements was terrible to witness, and many of the native buildings which were full of objects of art and beauty were ruthlessly destroyed. Of the ruin which overtook the Salt Commissioner's *yamen* we read:—

"Hardly ever have I seen a sadder and more impressive sight than this beautiful palace, with its fine decorations, being mercilessly destroyed by a terrific fire. Through the large picturesque gate, at the sides of which sat, impassive, two magnificently carved lions of red and green stone, with round eyes and curly tails and manes, I gazed upon a sight which brought vividly to my mind Dante's 'Inferno.' The waves of heat were almost blinding if one ventured too near, and, half choked by the smoke, one gazed in awe at the tongues of flame bursting through on all sides, devouring everything

within their reach, and shooting up into the air, where they became lost in clouds of black smoke. The clash of collapsing ceilings, the crackling of furniture, and every now and then fearful explosions of cartridges—there were thousands and thousands of rounds in the palace—filled one's ears. A few dead Chinamen in the foreground completed the picture, a picture as diabolical as one may ever wish to see. Except for their main walls of masonry, houses in China are mostly of wood, so that in a comparatively short time the rich palace was in ashes."

Mr. Savage-Landor was not in Peking during the siege, and his account of the events of that tragic period is therefore second-hand. It is, however, carefully compiled, and supplies a very complete narrative of the attack and the defence. Full justice is done to the heroic conduct of the besieged foreigners, and a most interesting conversation with Bishop Favier on the subject of the successful defence of Petang, or the northern cathedral, is usefully recorded. "Petang," we are told,

"was probably the chief point of attack of the Boxers and Chinese Imperial troops on Europeans and Christian converts. Within the walls and barricades of Petang three thousand men and women of the religion of Christ withstood from beginning to end the fierce attack of the bloodthirsty mob outside, their only protection forty rifles, all counted, and about one hundred rounds of ammunition."

And yet for six weeks this garrison, feeble in everything but heroism, held out against daily and nightly onslaughts of the countless besiegers. Bishop Favier thus describes the first attack on the mission:—

"When the Boxers.....were within a few yards of our gate a scene of the wildest fanaticism took place. Diabolical incantations were made by their leaders, a number of men being quickly placed in a hypnotic trance. Joss-sticks and images were burnt, while prostrations and other exercises, accompanied by weird chanting, took place. When the mob had been worked into a state of uncontrollable excitement, a terrific rush was made by the Boxers for our front gate. On they came, believing themselves to be bullet-proof. They waved their swords, and stamped on the ground with their feet, yelling and gesticulating like madmen.....Three or four volleys from the Lebel rifles of our marines left more than fifty dead on the ground. A great many others were wounded. There was a stampede, but they sneaked back during the night and set fire to many houses around us."

The story of the defence of the Legations has been so often repeated that we need only refer our readers to Mr. Savage-Landor's vivid and accurate record of the events of that tragic time. Of the gallant garrison of the British Legation it is impossible to speak with anything but the highest admiration. We could wish that the same could be said of some of the troops of the relieving force. One of the evil consequences of war is that it breeds a brutal disregard for human life, and the atrocities which disgraced the capture of Peking will ever remain a blot on the name of foreigners in China. The chief offenders in this regard were the Russian Cossacks, and eye-witnesses bear irrefragable evidence of the brutal deeds of these men. Mr. Savage-Landor calls these statements "ridiculous stories," but throughout his book he is as enthusiastic in praise of the Russians as he is denunciatory of the Buddhist priests of China. We cannot help suspecting that a judicious act of civility on the part of

General Linievitch at the time of the march through the Forbidden City has something to do with his admiration for everything Russian. Being anxious to be among the chosen few who were to be allowed to march with the detachments through the city, he applied to General Barrow for permission to be among the number. This was apparently refused him, though eventually he succeeded in being present. "Personally," he tells us,

"fortune attended me. Being of a somewhat independent disposition, I never beg for favours. I happened to pay a friendly call on the Russian General Linievitch, when I was asked whether I should attend the procession the following morning. I answered that the General of my own country would not allow me to see it. Much astonishment was expressed by the Russians present, and, to use their own words, it seemed beyond their conception that I, who had single-handed tried to do in Tibet what the allied nations were now going to do in China, should be prevented by my own countrymen from attending the ceremony. An invitation was thereupon given me to ride into the palace by the side of General Linievitch, who, being the senior general, would be the first foreigner to enter the forbidden ground. I was proud beyond words at receiving such a great honour from the greatest of all generals in the field, and on so great a historical occasion."

The italics are our own.

The work is profusely illustrated. Many of the engravings add an interest to its pages, while others disfigure them.

*The Life of the Bee.* By Maurice Maeterlinck. Translated by Alfred Sutro. (George Allen.)

MR. SUTRO, who has had a good deal of practice at translating M. Maeterlinck's poetical prose, has reached here a high level of success. While his English is not always free from suggestions of foreign idiom, he retains to a large extent the delicate and intimate charm which admirers of the author by this time know so well. It may be somewhat of a surprise to see M. Maeterlinck descending to minute investigation of the bee, whose wonderful intelligence has confounded the seekers after evolution. But unlike most of his scientific predecessors, who are quoted pretty often, the author does not pretend to write a technical treatise. He will "speak of the bees very simply, as one speaks of a subject one knows and loves to those who know it not." And simply and lovingly he deals with the mysteries of the palace of honey and the eventful life of its laborious inmates: the formation and departure of the swarm; the foundation of the new city; the birth, combat, and nuptial flight of the young queens; the massacre of the males; and finally the return of the sleep of winter. To many these successive episodes, as also the laws, habits, and peculiarities of the hive, all vividly and gracefully depicted, if with unexpected accuracy of detail, will prove the more attractive pages of the book. Others will delight in the bold hypotheses of the writer, not unfrequently supported by his experience of twenty years' bee-keeping. The argument centres chiefly on the "spirit of the hive" and the "evolution" of the honey-bearing races. M. Maeterlinck naturally inclines to credit the bees with

more than instinct, against the majority of recent apiarists, who preach a theory whereof the fatality and blindness recall the Cartesian automaton. He nevertheless readily admits that neither set of arguments is conclusive:—

"Who shall tell us, oh little people that are so profoundly in earnest, that have fed on the warmth and the light and on nature's purest, the soul of the flowers—wherein matter for once seems to smile and put forth its most wistful effort towards beauty and happiness—who shall tell us what problems you have resolved, but we not yet; what certitudes you have acquired, that we still have to conquer? And if you have truly resolved these problems, acquired these certitudes, by the aid of some blind and primitive impulse and not through the intellect, then to what enigma, more insoluble still, are you not urging us on? Little city abounding in faith and mystery and hope, why do your myriad virgins consent to a task that no human slave has ever accepted? Another spring would be theirs, another summer, were they only a little less wasteful of strength, a little less forgetful of self, in their ardour for toil; but at the magnificent moment when the flowers all cry to them they seem to be stricken with the fatal ecstasy of work, and in less than five weeks they almost all perish, their wings broken, their bodies shrivelled and covered with wounds.

*Tantus amor florum, et generandi gloria mellis.*"

Hence, rising from these considerations to others of a more abstract and universal nature, M. Maeterlinck proceeds:—

"Yes, in all things, at all times, let us rejoice not in regions loftier than the truth, for that were impossible, but in regions higher than the little truths that our eye can seize. Should a chance, a recollection, an illusion, a passion; in a word, should any motive whatever cause an object to reveal itself to us in a more beautiful light than to others, let that motive be first of all dear to us. It may only be error, perhaps; but this error will not prevent the moment wherein this object appears the most admirable to us, from being the moment wherein we are likeliest to perceive its real beauty."

In fact, this book is, coming from its author, not the surprise that it would seem at the outset. It is not so much scientific as meditative and philosophic. The bees are credited with "will and intellect"; they possess extraordinary powers of arrangement, of forethought, of subordination to the general good which lead to reflections on human wisdom and destiny. M. Maeterlinck insists that

"the most trivial secret of the non-human object we behold in nature connects more closely perhaps with the profound enigma of our origin and our end, than the secret of those of our passions that we study the most eagerly and most passionately."

And so he is not merely Virgil's old man retired in a garden with the simple pleasures of horticulture (though we find an echo of Virgil's exquisite passage in these pages), but an investigator who sees in nature's smallest phenomenon the great mystery, the key to life and, for all its sadness, perhaps to beauty. M. Maeterlinck loves the mysterious. His thought seems like that of another weighty and beautiful master of prose, Sir Thomas Browne, who would rather not have things explained—a type of mind sufficiently out of tune with the modern zeal to analyze and despise, degrade all things to commonness, do away with all miracles. Tennyson had asked why it is

that nature lends such evil dreams.

To this later poet, too, nature is not cheering: all things in nature are sad, the sadder as one looks the closer. Our reflections, our search for the final cause, are to him "no more than our feeble cry," a phrase which echoes 'In Memoriam' again. The Tennysonian remedy is but a vague far-off good; but M. Maeterlinck says that we must study as deep as we may, even if the end be futile:—

"At the present hour the duty before us is to seek out that which perhaps may be hiding behind these sorrows; and, urged on by this endeavour, we must not turn our eyes away, but must steadily, fixedly watch these sorrows and study them with a courage and interest as keen as though they were joys. It is right that before we judge nature, before we complain, we should at least ask every question that we can possibly ask."

The poets, the masters of beautiful language, have often employed themselves in the criticism of life; but they have quarrelled with the men of science; they have found them wanting in vision and reverence, delighting in their hard facts, thinking that all things are explained because they have found out a little. A notable discussion left its mark in the fine lines:—

There was an awful rainbow once in heaven;  
We know her woof, her texture; she is given  
In the dull catalogue of common things.  
Philosophy will clip an Angel's wings.

Of course it is not so to the deeper mind. M. Maeterlinck has shown in these pages that it is not so, that closer study leads to but greater awe; and the application of his beautiful prose, sad with the burden of the mystery, to a region which has hitherto been conquered only by the specialist, who cannot write as a rule what either the artist or the common man can read, is no slight boon. We have already given our readers a taste of his brilliant style. Here is one more. The sting of the bee has pretty associations with little lyrics about Cupid, but who could glorify it as M. Maeterlinck does?

"A legend of menace and peril still clings to the bee. There is the distressful recollection of her sting, which produces a pain so characteristic that one knows not wherewith to compare it: a kind of destroying dryness, a flame of the desert rushing over the wounded limb, as though these daughters of the sun had distilled a dazzling poison from their father's angry rays, in order more effectively to defend the treasure they gather from his beneficent hours."

It is a wistful book, with a sad beauty which recalls him who also wrote of the bees and touched the deeper issues of life with words which have left their mark on the poets of centuries.

*Before the Great Pillage.* By Augustus Jessopp. (Fisher Unwin.)

DR. JESSOPP'S qualities as a writer are so well known to the public that it is needless to describe the general character of his latest volume. A collection of sketches, written it would seem *currente calamo*, always easy reading, frequently amusing, yet with no lack of real learning and purpose, this volume ought to be of service to the mass of persons who can read history if served up with plenty of sauce, but do not care to tackle it in its more serious form.



Some, however, may think that Dr. Jessopp is too fond of semi-humorous comment. This quality is most noticeable in the sketches of animal life with which the volume closes, though the remarks about the folly and harm wrought by the superstition concerning moles are really valuable. But on the whole we have nothing but praise for this book, which is likely to carry light into quarters that need it. Dr. Jessopp is a Broad, not a High Churchman, so that that portion of the public which cannot believe in an historian being honest if he does not agree with them will not be able to cavil at his estimate of "the great pillage."

The object which the doctor sets before himself is that of describing the genesis and growth of the parish in the Middle Ages. He brings out admirably the fact that Church property was of an extremely valuable nature, and belonged to the parish, not the parson. He may or may not have taken an unduly favourable estimate of the average parson in the later Middle Ages, but there can be no doubt of the correctness of his views as to the sense of pride and property which the humblest villagers had in their church and all its fittings, and the great sacrifices made to keep them up. His analysis of the income of the parish is of much interest, and his estimate of the great raid on parish property made in the sixteenth century contains little that is new to the student, but may bring home to the general reader something of what happened under the ring of swindlers who governed the country in the name of Edward VI., and give point to the statement that a large part of the changes of that period were simply "the robbery of the poor for the benefit of the middle classes":—

"I am not qualified to tell the story of those three or four years, which were chiefly taken up with the plunder of the poor by the rich. It is an unwritten chapter of English history, and has long been waiting to be told. But let one caution be offered to those who may set themselves to this great task. . . . Let them get rid of the old assumption that this monstrous robbery was a necessary part of what we call the Reformation. Religion had just about as much to do with this business as religion had to do with the September massacres at Paris in 1792. In the latter case the mob went raving mad with the lust of blood; in the former case the richer classes went raving mad with the lust of gain. The great pillage was nothing less than this—the *Disendowment of all the Parishes in England*. Nothing was left to the parish community but the bare walls of the church fabric, stripped of every 'thing of beauty' on which the eyes had delighted to rest. No church was allowed to retain more than a single bell. The beautiful art of campanology almost died out. The organs were sold for the price of the pipes; the old music, the old melodies, were hushed, for praising God in an unknown tongue was prohibited. The old gatherings in the gildhalls came to an end. It is nonsense, it is absolutely contrary to fact, to say that it was owing to the suppression of the monasteries that new devices were resorted to in order to save the poor from starving. Pauperism came in not by the suppression of the monasteries, but by the *Disendowment of the Parishes*."

It is, of course, a fact well known to students that the dissolution of the monasteries was a far less flagrant piece of iniquity than the suppression of gilds and

chantries and the shameless confiscation of their property that followed; but it is a good thing to have the matter stated in so uncompromising a way by an author who is read by the many.

The paper on 'Robbing God' is also of great value. Its common sense alone makes it a refreshing contrast to most of the matter written on either side in the Disestablishment controversy. The doctor is an "Establishment" man, but he is annoyed by the loose talk indulged in by "defenders" of the Church of England. He points out that if disendowment be robbing God, it is a form of robbery which has been indulged in with the approval and support and by the instrumentality of the Church; for endowments belonged to the diocese and the parish, and yet with the increase of monasticism there followed a steady alienation of tithes from parochial purposes to the monastery—an alienation which was directed and approved, if not by all the Church, at least by its most powerful leaders. He mentions further the fact that a little later a similar alienation of property that was originally parochial took place in the interests of the new centres of education, the universities. He urges the fact that in the Middle Ages "clerk" covered a member of any learned profession, and that money left to the Church might naturally come to be devoted to any cause other than that of immediate material profit. At the same time he leaves it perfectly clear on which side his own sympathies are now:—

"Base the title of the Established Church to her endowments upon considerations of the highest political expediency, and you choose ground from which it will be difficult to be dislodged. Appeal to the gratitude of our countrymen, and teach them what the Anglican clergy have been and have done for their ancestors and their fatherland in the past, and you will not appeal in vain. Nay, appeal to the hopes and fears of the future, if you will, and, rightly instructed, the nation will no longer surrender themselves to those who would make a desert and call it peace. But beware how you rashly and stubbornly insist that the formulae, the ritual, the discipline, the general régime of the Church as by law established, are each and all equally and indubitably of Divine origin, and that to alienate one jot or tittle of her property is to 'rob God'!"

If these moderate and sensible words could reach the ears of the clerical (or lay) rhetorician, we should perhaps hear less exaggeration than we do from Church Defence platforms.

'The Cry of the Villages' is a weighty appeal to philanthropists to do something to brighten the life of the country. It is pointed out that while there has been an enormous development in the means of rational enjoyment and education provided for the working classes in towns, in villages nothing of the kind exists, and that after schooldays are over monotony is the lot of the countryman in his leisure hours. The evil effects of this on the village population are evident, and had we space at our disposal we should like to say more of the doctor's impressive plea that a little of the social energy so active in towns might be diverted to the country.

Two phrases about Nonconformists strike us as interesting, if not accurate. In one Dr. Jessopp, who hates the monks, compares

not inaptly the extra-parochial privileges of the monastic orders to the position of Dissenters, and in another he says that among our Nonconformists nowadays no man is a "member of a Christian Church" except he be a "member of a Dissenting congregation." Either Dr. Jessopp's experience of Nonconformists must be very disagreeable or his pen has run away from his thought, for assuredly such a statement is grossly unjust to the great bulk of Dissenters.

*Nietzsche as Critic, Philosopher, Poet, and Prophet: Choice Selections from his Works.*  
Compiled by Thomas Common. (Grant Richards.)

It were a useful task for the sociologist, evolutionist, or whatever he choose to call himself, to try to calculate for how long, how many millenniums more, the *odium theologicum* and its correlative the *odium anti-theologicum* will continue to play the foremost rôles in determining our politics, our social groupings, our philosophical systems, &c. For instance, the real *causa causans* of Nietzsche's system—to use that word somewhat loosely—must lie in the persecutions endured by some ancestor, or, perhaps, the petty persecutions and humiliations a long train of them may have suffered, at the hands of official Christianity. The whole essential basis of his creed—again with some apology for the substantive—is his dislike, hatred rather, which really amounts to an insane hatred, of Christianity and its moral system. Mr. Common, his translator and disciple, claims for Nietzsche the highest rank among evolutionists, just because he has, according to Mr. Common, accounted for Christianity, which is, we know, according to the "Nietzscheism," the protective device of the weak and cowardly to persuade mankind at large to adopt a creed of pity (*Mitleid*, or fellow-suffering); a contrivance—to use our translator's words—serving the same purpose as "the ink of the cuttle-fish, the stench of the skunk, the venom of the serpent, and the various devices for concealment and disguise of cowardly creatures." (Does not the philosopher speak in the use of these illustrations?) On which it may be commented, first that the colour of the butterfly, of the partridge, &c., is also largely due to this desire of concealment; and, secondly, it may be asked, Why is it more "cowardly" of the mantis, say, to keep still and look like a stick, than of the beast of prey to pretend to be asleep or dead when the young gazelle comes down to water? Both are devices for self-preservation. And if there be a choice, it is more cowardly of the physically strong creature not to "play the game" than of the weak one. And here comes in the essential weakness in system not only of Nietzsche's "Nietzscheism," but of that form of it which consists simply in the worship of physical strength and so forth. It may be a cowardly device, but it is a necessary one to the preservation of all mental or moral superiority, that physical strength should be acknowledged as not the supreme factor of existence. And nothing could show more clearly Nietzsche's prejudice (for it could not be his ignorance, albeit it may be that of many of his disciples) than his identification of "humanitarianism" with Christianity.

Buddhism and Stoicism both exalt this form of "cowardice" as much in their way as do the writings of the New Testament. And it is an interesting fact that a writer of the authority of Miss Julia Wedgwood in her 'History of the Moral Ideal' should, while rather holding a brief for Christianity, make it a reproach against the disciples of Zeno—Seneca, for example—that they mischievously exalted the doctrine of non-resistance; which same doctrine is for Tolstoy the very kernel of Christianity. Truth to tell, it is impossible to take Nietzsche seriously when he writes on this head. Pilate (he tells us, for instance) was the one sensible man of his *entourage*, because he could not be persuaded to think that it mattered whether there was one Jew more or less in the world. It is not easy to take Nietzsche seriously as a philosopher at all.

But he was certainly an admirable penman, far more deft than most of his fellow-countrymen (that deftness, by the way, springs from "coward instincts" probably; for was he not a Pole of a slave race, and no Teuton?), with immense acuteness on the critical side, and he rose sometimes to a very real eloquence and poetry. He was essentially an artist in words. And a good part of the force of his preaching, which is often persuasive aesthetically where it fails logically, lies in things which were not translatable, as, for example, in his handling of such a word as *Mitleid*, etymologically "fellow-suffering," but in general significance "pity." Another impossibility is the all-essential *Uebermensch*, who is rendered as the "overman" in many parts of this translation, though elsewhere better as the "higher man." Such things put immense, almost insuperable, difficulties in the way of the translator; and one may fairly say that Mr. Common has done as well as or better than could have been expected. The verse he would have been wiser to leave alone. It requires a poet to translate a poet, and only verse which is poetry (some of Nietzsche's is that) is worth rendering. Everybody, for instance, who knows Nietzsche at all knows that very simple, but solemn and impressive chant in the fourth book of 'Zarathustra' beginning

O Mensch, gieb acht!

It is sadly transformed in

O man! mark well.

What saith the Midnight with its knell?

And later:—

Woe saith: "Oh, go!"

where the "Oh" turns it into such a fearful bathos, suggestive of "No go." And in the prose even the renderings are not impeccable. Here are some passages very characteristic of Nietzsche's manner, which are rather spoilt by such un-English phrases as "good distrust," "thoroughly cooled spirits," "comedy of conceitedness," &c., which would not, we think, satisfy any reasonable taste in translation, much as the competent differ on such points:—

"And when the truth has once triumphed there, ask yourselves with good distrust [with a reasonable distrust], 'What powerful error has fought for it?'"

"Incapableness of lying [an incapacity for lying] is still far from being love to truth. Be on your guard!"

"I do not believe in thoroughly cooled spirits. He who cannot lie does not know what truth is."

The above is a passage from 'Zarathustra.' The following is from the 'Miscellaneous Opinions,' an additional part to 'Human, all too Human':—

"It is not true that a dying person is in general more honourable than a person in ordinary vigour; on the contrary, almost every dying person is liable to be allured by the solemn attitude of the company, and the restrained or flowing torrents of tears and emotions, to an alternating conscious and unconscious comedy of conceitedness. The seriousness with which every dying person is treated has undoubtedly been the very finest enjoyment of his life to many a poor despised devil, and a sort of indemnification and partial payment for much privation."

But in the bulk of the prose passages there is certainly enough—and well enough translated—to give the non-German-reading public the impression of an intellect of exceptional power, touched by insanity and so constantly in revolt that Nietzsche practically quarrels with everybody—Schopenhauer and Wagner, to whom he was more specially indebted, as well as Goethe and the stately spirits of the past. Any definite system it will be difficult for them to guess at from these extracts. What this astute critic says with a certain grain of truth about Carlyle—that he shouts his doctrines so vigorously in order to persuade himself that he believes them—is far more true of himself. Profoundly melancholy in himself, in his doctrines, and in his quarrel with everybody, Nietzsche is always shouting about joy.

Though, however, Nietzsche can hardly be treated as a systematic philosopher, his teaching has its place in the development, at any rate in the see-saw, of human thought. It would take too long to trace the points of its affiliation to the teaching of Schopenhauer, which Nietzsche thought he so utterly repudiated. The following passage on will power from 'Zarathustra' strikes the keynote in reality of Nietzsche's strongest influence on contemporary thought. It shows our translator at his best:—

"A catalogue of blessings is posted up for every people. Lo! it is the catalogue of their triumphs; lo! it is the voice of their Will Power."

"What they think difficult is laudable; what is indispensable and difficult they call good; and what relieves in the direst distress, the unique and most difficult—they extol as holy....."

"Verily, my brother, if thou but knewest a people's necessities, its land, its sky, and its neighbours, thou wouldst assuredly recognize the law of its ascent, and why it climbs up this ladder to its hope."

"Thou must always be at the head and surpass the others; thy jealous soul should love no one except a friend—that made the soul of the Greek vibrate: he thereby went on his way to greatness."

"To speak truth and be skilful with bow and arrow—to do so seemed alike estimable and grievous to the people from whom my name [Zarathustra] is derived—the name which is alike estimable and grievous to me."

At present the writer lives chiefly in the hearts of anæmic, over-nicotined, over-absinthed students in France and Germany, each of whom dreams that if he does what he likes and regards no one's feelings he is qualifying to become or is already the long-sought *Uebermensch*. But of course there is

a better side in Nietzsche's teaching than this. Essentially it may be said to be an appeal to the honesty of individual conscience from the dishonesty of conscience hypnotized by "journalism" and public opinion so called.

*Sheffield in the Eighteenth Century.* By R. E. Leader. (The Sheffield Independent Press.)

SHEFFIELD has had its full share of historians, from Taylor and Goodwin and Hunter to the comparatively recent Gatty and the elder Leader; but they left room for this chatty and agreeable volume pertaining to the last century but one. In many respects the social and economic changes from the eighteenth to the beginning of the twentieth century seem much more considerable than those that were effected between the sixteenth and the eighteenth, and they certainly deserve to be chronicled. It is but seldom that a single volume helps us so vividly to realize the seven-league strides that England has taken in the last hundred and fifty years.

It was not until the eighteenth century was hastening to accomplish half of its circuit that it entered into the minds of the boldest business men of Sheffield to go forth to distant parts to seek markets for their wares. Joshua Fox, of Westbar, who finished his apprenticeship to his father in 1723, is said to have been the first Sheffield manufacturer to enter upon personal relations with London. Starting forth on foot, amidst the tears and apprehensions of wife and children and neighbours, he reached Mansfield by nightfall. There he rested, and had to wait the next day "until travellers met together in sufficient numbers to brave the perils of the Nottingham Forest, dreaded both for its robbers and for the intricacies of the road." When he did reach London, the excellence of his samples procured him many orders; and his success encouraged others to follow his example. Enoch Trickett, a genuine, broad "old Shevvielder," who was in partnership with his brother William—Master Outler in 1771—as a file manufacturer, determined to try his luck in the metropolis. Arriving in safety, he entered a merchant's warehouse and produced his pattern files. The price was asked, and what discount was allowed:—

"'Discount,' he said; 'what's that? Oi ne'er heard tell on it afore.' It was explained that by making an allowance of so much per cent. he would get an order, and on receipt of the goods money would be remitted in payment. 'Way, oi've telled yo' t' price on 'em, an' belooke oi 'st expect t' brass for 'em.' Further explanations only elicited from him the indignant exclamation, 'Soa, yo' wanten me to gie yo' so much to buy t' foiles?' The terms on which an order would be given were again rehearsed, but Enoch's patience was exhausted, so 'lapping up' his files he said, 'Nay, lad, nay; oi can sell 'em for moor nor that at Breetmoor's onny toime, and tak' t' brass whooam wi' me when wee've 'livered.' And Enoch formed so poor an opinion of London doings that thereafter he stayed at home."

It is strange, too, to be reminded of the difficulty of the transmission of money when cheques were unknown. To avoid the expense and risk of sending money to



creditors at a distance by a special messenger, a general system of barter was customary in dealing with even the best of the Sheffield firms. Tea, hams, spirits, cloth, cotton, drapery—in short, anything which customers produced or traded in—was the ordinary form of payment for Sheffield cutlery. Hence the cutlers often turned into general shopkeepers, and sold to the general public at fair prices. But the great evil of this barter principle was that it led to the payment of the workmen in goods instead of money, thus tethering labour by a perpetual debt. Mr. Leader says that cases are on record in which men were obliged to accept tea, in payment of wages, at as much as twelve shillings a pound, though even as far back as 1760 a fair price was eight shillings.

One of the last surviving of the old sumptuary laws, now almost forgotten, but considered of great importance in maintaining one branch of Sheffield trade, was that directed against covered buttons. The town dealt largely in horn buttons of different kinds for common wear, as well as in metal and plated buttons for the better class of coats, waistcoats, and gaiters. From 1720 to the end of the century the town annals show that there was considerable though fitful zeal, under the statute of 8 Anne, against the vendors and users of covered buttons. In 1791 a tailor was convicted in a penalty of 40s. a dozen for setting covered buttons on a gentleman's waistcoat, and the wearer in a like penalty for appearing in a garment thus adorned. General action was taken against offenders by the master and journeymen button-makers of Sheffield as late as 1802, but the magistrates gave so little encouragement to these prosecutions that the law, though it long remained unpealed, fell from that time into desuetude.

No umbrellas were seen in Sheffield until the century was well advanced. Mr. John Greaves, merchant of Fargate, seems to have been the first bold man to use this protection, and on venturing into the streets thus covered was received with continuous shouts of derision. The ribs of this first umbrella—which is said still to be kept by his descendant as a curiosity—were jointed in the middle, so that the cover attached to them doubled back. The upper part of the stick was short, so that the whole when folded was only 14 inches long and could be stowed away in one of the capacious pockets then in vogue. When it was unfurled for use a jointed stick fitted into the upper part. When the above-mentioned William Trickett appeared with an umbrella, his brother Enoch joined in the general derision, remarking, "See thee, ahr Bill's gettin' a waukin' stick wi' petticoats on."

Up to the beginning of the seventeenth century, as was customary in all English boroughs, the duty of keeping the streets clean and passable was thrown upon the individual householders. Sheffield first recognized, after a very partial fashion, its corporate responsibility for sanitation in 1623 by paying for the sweeping of the Lady Bridge and the pavement at the church gates. At the beginning of the eighteenth century a scavenger was appointed at a small yearly salary, and special charges were also incurred for clearing away rubbish and cleansing channels.

By the dawn of the next century an elementary idea of keeping down the dust in the streets germinated in the minds of the town officials; in 1801 eight shillings were paid "for fitting an old cask for the scavengers to water the streets." The individual responsibility of the townsmen in connexion with the maintenance of the streets died a hard death. The inhabitants were liable to give personal service even by the legislation of 13 George III. in an Act for the amendment and preservation of the highways. Thus in 1783 one Joseph Frier was

"required, by yourself or by one sufficient labourer, provided with a mattock and a spade, to attend at the market-cross within the town of Sheffield, on the 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 days of August next, by six o'clock in the morning of each day, in order to perform such duty upon the highways within the said township as shall be required by the Surveyor, and for every day's default therein you forfeit one shilling and sixpence."

Street lamps for Sheffield, at the general charge of the town, but on a very limited scale, were resolved upon in 1734. The number was increased in 1747, and the person employed to clean, light, and take care of the lamps was voted a salary of 4*l.* a year. Lamp-posts were bought in 1752, and by 1778 the yearly upkeep of the town lights amounted to the comparatively large sum of 72*l.* 5*s.* In 1809 the lamps, such as they were, were only lighted for one hundred nights, namely, between September 19th and March 25th, and even during that period the streets were unlighted when the calendar foretold a moon.

The townfolk of Sheffield were singularly opposed to changes, and took every opportunity of demonstrating after a rough-and-ready fashion. In 1728 the eighth Duke of Norfolk wrote to his agent suggesting the raising of the price of coals from "my colliery at Sheffield" a halfpenny a pack-horse load, but adding that it would be well, "as the road is intolerably bad," first to mend it, "which would in some measure please them for the advanced price." But the people were anything but pleased at improvements made at their cost, and riotously resisted the rise. It had been the policy of successive dukes to put every impediment, as lords of the manor, in the way of other collieries securing access to Sheffield, but they were sometimes defeated in these selfish attempts to block out the competition of neighbours and of their own tenants by the closing of roads. The ninth duke, in 1774, took a more enlightened course. He adopted the then original means of facilitating the carriage of coals to the town by laying down a tramway of wooden rails two miles long, the coals being delivered at a dépôt at the bottom of Park Hill. Though by this means fuel was cheapened, the populace, excited by the idle tales of the carters whose industry was endangered, saw in this some deep design to raise the price and interfere with labour. Serious riots were the result; several of the trucks used on the wooden road were broken up, one being dragged in triumph through the town, set on fire, and pitched flaming into the river. The loading stage was also destroyed, as well as the various buildings at the dépôt. The Master Cutler and other leading inhabitants in vain

attempted to reassure the populace, and the anti-tramway riots were renewed from time to time. Eventually, however, progress won the day, and the tramroad was relaid with iron rails. It has been contended, but with doubtful success, that this was the first tramway so constructed in the kingdom.

The section of these reminiscences that deals with the Cutlers' Company, and the political antagonism that existed between its strong Tory views and the Whiggery of the Town Trustees and the democratic sentiments of the people, is of special interest. The attendance of nobility and representative men at the annual Cutlers' Feast is a custom of long standing. In 1771 there were present at the feast the Dukes of Norfolk, Devonshire, and Leeds; the Marquis of Rockingham (who had been, and was to be again, the head of the Government); the Earls of Holderness, Scarborough, Effingham, Bute (who had also been Prime Minister), and Stafford; Lord George Cavendish, Lord John Cavendish, Lord John Murray, the Hon. John Manners, and Sir George Saville. Towards the close of the eighteenth century the custom prevailed of a dinner for the ladies on the day following that for the gentlemen. In 1788 the Master Cutler invited 381 guests, whilst the Mistress Cutler had 268 to the ladies' feast. In 1790 the numbers had respectively increased to 390 gentlemen and 340 ladies. Fourteen gentlemen had the honour of being selected to dine with the ladies, of whom eight were to be bachelors. Custom required that every present of a buck or a doe was to be acknowledged by the return gifts (presumably to the servant of the donor) of half-a-guinea, a knife, and a razor. The toast lists were of an appalling length, and even after they had all been gone through and the Master Cutler and principal guests had withdrawn, "a select body of toppers remained behind to drink far into the night."

Sheffield was foremost among the more democratic towns of the kingdom towards the end of the century in acclaiming, by ox-roasting, cannon firing, and immense processions, the triumph of "our French brethren over despots and despotism." In 1794 "The Society for Constitutional Information," composed of those who saw in the French Revolution a summons to Englishmen to rise on behalf of liberty, grew bolder, and held a great meeting on Castle Hill, where the crowd sang to the tune of the National Anthem a song beginning "God save great Thomas Paine." The Tories replied, regardless of grammar and decency, by giving as a toast at their convivial meetings:—

"May Tom Paine live for ever; may he never die nor nobody ever kill him; but may he be put in a bag and hang swig-swig over hell's gate till doomsday. May the devil sweep hell with the enemies of the king, and afterwards burn the broom."

In the same year the reform party celebrated a proclaimed day of general fast by another great meeting, and the Government intervened, securing the conviction of several for sedition. These prosecutions did not really hinder free speech, but rather furthered it, and great meetings continued to be held on Crookes Moor. It is a great mistake to suppose, as most partially informed people do, that there was any

general agreement throughout England as to the wars in which our country was continuously engaged in the closing years of the eighteenth century. The annals of Sheffield afford one of the many proofs to the contrary. The numerous days of alternate thanksgiving and fast generally provoked considerable protests in all populous districts. Thus on the day appointed for a national thanksgiving in December, 1797, for threefold victories over the French, Spanish, and Dutch, those who flocked to worship found themselves confronted by this inscription attached to the church door:—

Vile hypocrites, are these your pranks,  
To murder men, then give God thanks?  
Vile hypocrites, proceed no further;  
God will accept no thanks for murder.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Doom Castle.* By Neil Munro. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE author of 'John Splendid' has not entirely maintained the level of that excellent romance in his present story, which is slighter in texture, although the fabric is still tartan of the genuine dye. He has added to his portrait gallery a worthy figure in the gallant Frenchman who comes to the land of Lorne to avenge him upon a certain West Highland spy and traitor, who has signalized himself by a pitch of public and private profligacy unusual among the sinister plotters who haunted in the last part of the eighteenth century the intriguing purlieus of St. Germain's. The Comte de Montaignon has introductions to the Baron of Doom, a Lamond of ancient race, who clings to his eerie Highland fortalice till the last acres are won from him by the civil processes which in those days superseded the eternal blood-feuds of an earlier time. The baron is a pathetic figure, not without much dignity and the garment of reserve with which a Highland gentleman will shroud misfortune. Faithful by his side stands his old manservant, a Fifehire Caleb Balderstone, whose idiomatic utterances show the author's skill in Lowland speech and humour. But perhaps the character of Argyll's chamberlain MacTaggart, who turns out, after a series of rather squalid attempts on the life of the Frenchman at Doom, to be the veritable "Drimdarroch" of whom he is in search, is the most veracious.

*The Wise Man of Sterncross.* By the Lady Augusta Noel. (Murray.)

LADY AUGUSTA NOEL just lacks the literary force to sustain the strength of the excellent situations with which she provides herself. Chris Morland, or Leo Dunbar, as he should be called, is the victim of a foolish, but well-meant deception practised by one good woman upon another, and of an ill-timed confession of the same, whereby his career is spoilt and a great deal of misery entailed upon others. His rugged personality, burdened rather than blessed with a touch of genius, is decidedly interesting; but the author confesses her own inability to deal with it when at a critical moment she sweeps him ruthlessly out of the story, a sacrifice to sentiment and still more to convenience. Mrs. Shirley is one of the strongest studies of a miser that have appeared in modern fiction,

while Chris's adoptive mother, with her ineffective water-colours, her helpless sentimentality, and withal her brave heart, is a very natural and pathetic character. True's childhood with all that pertains to it is charmingly described, but as a heroine she is of little more importance to the story, or in reality to Chris himself, than is the Wise Man, who looks on and criticizes. The author writes with great sympathy and comprehension of her fellows, and there are many pleasant and well-bred people to be met with in these pages; but a looseness of construction and too diffuse a style have a weakening effect upon the book as a whole.

*The Second Youth of Theodora Desanges.* By Mrs. Lynn Linton. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THE late Mrs. Lynn Linton was a remarkable woman, but not a great novelist. This last work of hers is by no means entertaining; it is an unconventional and terribly gloomy study of modern life. The Theodora Desanges of the title is an old woman who rises from a bed of sickness literally rejuvenated, and the story gives her experiences and her thoughts, the former of which show but a poor opinion of humanity, while the latter are inspired by pessimism throughout, for Mrs. Desanges, while young in physical appearance and feeling, remains mentally the agnostic woman of seventy:—

"Here, then, I stand in that miraculous state of restoration which all others think would be such a supreme delight. And what am I but as one dead—a mere automatic husk from which the true vitalising principle has gone? I love nothing; I believe in nothing; I hope in nothing, and I fear no more than I hope."

It is a clever and depressing study, marred by the wholly unnecessary multiplicity of melodramatic incidents and by the way in which the author makes her youthful veteran rail with undue energy in the concluding chapter at the badness of modern taste—"the easy familiarity of the young men and the ungraceful masculinity of the young women." Such a woman as Mrs. Desanges is shown to be, having had such experiences as are chronicled, should have looked on these matters of social taste with her habitual indifference.

*The Helmet of Navarre.* By Bertha Runkle. (Macmillan & Co.)

WE had looked upon this particular style of romance as somewhat out of date, but it seems as though we are to have something of a recrudescence of it—and from America. 'The Helmet of Navarre' is a fairly good example of its kind. We have a youthful hero devoted to the fortunes of a ducal house, winning his way through the most terrible experiences, and helping forward the union of his master's son with the beautiful Lorraine. The period is that when Henry of Navarre was at the gates of Paris and the power of Mayenne was waning. The St. Quentins are on the side of Navarre, and Lorraine is niece of Mayenne—which is a brief way of saying that there are many episodes before the end is reached. We notice occasional words of a modern, not to say Transatlantic sort, which jar with the phraseology supposed to impart mediæval colour to a story; "toggery," too, is a curious word in the mouths of sixteenth-

century folk. Despite such verbal faults and an excess of hairbreadth escapes, this is an entertaining story.

*Lady Haife.* By Neil Wynn-Williams. (Chapman & Hall.)

THIS work would have been the better of compression. There is too much of the nursery in it, although Lady Haife's little niece Violet, at any rate, is an interesting child. With the rather selfish Ernest we have less sympathy, and but little, we confess, with the morbid desire of the childless heroine to sever him from an affectionate mother. Mary Moore is a pathetic figure, but when she listens to the temptation Lady Haife sets before her we are not convinced. Two tragic incidents are in startling contrast with the generally tame level of the story.

*In the City.* By Alfred Hurry. (Macqueen.)

WHEN a lad of sixteen starts answering advertisements of "Wanted, a junior clerk," it behoves him to be careful, otherwise he may find himself, through no fault of his own, unless adaptability be one, in gaol. On coming out he may, indeed, turn over a new leaf, but the stigma of criminal is certain in the end to produce the very action in the absence of which originally it had been unfairly applied. 'In the City' is a well-written story of company promoters, good and bad. The plot is developed with great ingenuity, the reader's interest being equally divided between the Manassaland Concession, Limited, with its happy inception, rival concessionaires, and disastrous issues, and the love affairs of two young clerks, the successful termination to which balances the tragic failure of the millionaire. The characters are drawn with considerable insight into the essentials of human nature. The author evidently knows and loves his East-End, in which, despite the title, the greater part of the action takes place. Mr. Hurry is to be congratulated on a tale which is sensational without being unreal, and simple without being commonplace.

*The Young Squire's Resolve.* By Waldo Gray. (Fisher Unwin.)

THIS is a novel of a decidedly controversial cast. Whether or no we condemn Mr. Gray's judgment, we cannot help admiring his pluck, as the American said of the bull which charged a railway train. His hero is a young man of large fortune, derived from brewing, and a name, Frank Noble, which speaks for itself. When not "thinking of England and drunkenness or priestcraft," he is engaged in playing the violin, climbing in the Pyrenees, or making love to the daughter of a Protestant "pasteur" whom he has met there. The villain of the piece is a curate, who "was priestcraft incarnate from top to toe, without a vestige of manhood discoverable anywhere between his soft felt hat and silent boots," and who first cajoles and then succeeds the vicar, "an ardent advocate of muscular Christianity," only in the end to blossom out as "a father of the Holy Catholic Church." We have no hesitation in saying that chap. xxvii., whatever it may be



"based on," should not have been published, at least in its present form, to take no higher ground than that of good taste alone. Nor is it stated whether the nunnery in question is Anglican or Roman Catholic. The author takes himself too seriously. There are indications that, if he would leave the slaying of dragons, imaginary or real, to more competent St. Georges, he might be not unsuccessful in a plain tale of contemporary manners. "Hope springs eternal in the human breast" is printed as two short lines, an eccentricity of division which recurs.

*The Wisdom of Esau.* By R. L. Outhwaite and C. H. Chomley. (Fisher Unwin.)

A CLEVER story of Australian life. It opens in 1863, when a squatter's "run" has just been thrown open for selection under the Gavan Duffy Land Act, and for the most part follows the fortunes of one of the selectors, John Toland, who has left England in the hope of finding in Victoria a country where a farmer can own his land without any of the difficulties and restrictions attendant upon it at home; but Toland's land-hunger and his pride have to receive many shocks. He is well and consistently developed; and the authors have been no less successful with his patient, loving wife Ruth, and with the kindly cynic Conyngham. Incidentally, too, we have some realistic glimpses of Victorian life and scenery, and notably a powerful account of a disastrous forest fire and of the settlers' efforts to head it from their toil-won homes. The writers appear to know well the life with which they are dealing, have an interesting story to tell, and tell it in a distinctly readable fashion.

*Horace Morrell.* By Cecil Haselwood. (Drane.)

There is more faith, believe me, in honest doubt Than may be found in half the creeds.

Such is the slipshod utterance, according to this writer, of "our dear late poet laureate." The literary calibre of the book may be conjectured. It is a pity it is so poorly put together, as it is an honest polemic for Protestantism in the Church of England, which rather lacks capable expositors.

#### BOOKS ON THE WAR.

MR. MORTIMER MENPES has turned out some pretty sketches of South Africa in his volume *War Impressions*, published by Messrs. A. & C. Black. We have already noticed his sketches from the art point of view. The text is not quite so good as that of some of the other books dealing with much the same experiences which we have recently noticed, but the volume as a whole forms an excellent illustrated record of the war. The portraits which are included in considerable numbers are of unequal merit. There is a whole series of portraits of Lord Roberts and of Mr. Rhodes, for example, and only one of each is at all good, while even in the one successful portrait of Lord Roberts the eyes (which are most characteristic) are missed. All the portraits of Lord Milner are failures; and, generally, few indeed of the portraits in the volume come near to the views of scenery in merit, though some of them are excellent. We hardly understand how Mr. Mortimer Menpes can turn out side by side some portraits so admirable and others so singularly bad.

Points which we notice in the text are the C.I.V. "learning to ride on a wooden horse"; the indiscriminate praise of the Army Medical Corps and of the hospitals; the fact that at the moment when supplies were shortest, and when horses and men were dying as a consequence of the loss of the great convoy, one of the doctors was allowed to occupy a whole cart with a cinematograph; and the author's view of the deficiencies of our staff officers. Of all our points of difference from Mr. Menpes, we are the most struck by his indiscriminate blessing of the hospitals, winding up as it does with the statement that the present war will cause the soldier "to have improved" his impression of the Army Medical Corps. We are concerned only with the truth, but of the dozens, if not hundreds, of able books upon the war which we have reviewed, there is hardly one which does not point out what is revealed by almost every private letter, namely, the roughness, pretty general dishonesty, and entire unfitness for their work of the orderlies employed under the Army Medical Corps during the war. The stealing of the comforts intended for the patients, which should have been treated, in our opinion, as murder in many cases, has been so common as to have become a sort of standing joke with nearly every writer. The author seems to dislike Mr. Burdett-Coutts, for it is difficult otherwise to explain his attack upon that gentleman, who, in the opinion of the public, has undoubtedly done good work, though it may possibly be in the wrong way. We do not think that it is the belief of any competent observer except Mr. Menpes that "the Army Medical Corps.....will occupy a far higher position in the army than it has ever done before," except in the sense—in which it is clear from the context that Mr. Mortimer Menpes does not mean his phrase—that the war will be followed by sweeping changes which may improve the constitution of the body for future wars. Of all points, that on which we most closely agree with our author concerns what he says about staff work. He describes officers who, with manners most distressing to colonial and irregular troops, if not to all troops engaged, have the habit of ending a day of march, in which they have performed no duties, by unnecessarily sending broken-down horses three-quarters of a mile round, because a waggon is three feet out of line and cannot otherwise be got into a more mathematical position. Mr. Menpes tells us very truly:—

"A staff officer is a man who should have a life's training.....He cannot be expected to slip into the position purely from decorative reasons at a moment's notice.....In any other army than our own the staff officer would be chosen on account of his special aptitude for what should be the most arduous and important duties. Nobody can imagine Prince Bismarck, or Count Moltke, or Napoleon, or General Grant, or even one of the great Japanese generals, going into a war without the most accomplished and the most suitable men possible being attached to his staff."

Mr. A. M. S. Methuen publishes, through what we believe is his own firm, Messrs. Methuen & Co., *Peace or War in South Africa*, a volume in which he takes a view of the war and of the Boers which generally is that which commends itself to Mr. John Morley and his friends. Mr. Methuen cannot be expected to know more about the technical details of the art of war than do our Ministers, and he falls into the same error as Mr. Brodric with regard to the nature of "guerilla warfare": "That class of warfare is confined to the action of small bodies." Had he studied the great military writers or the history of the wars from which "little war," as contrasted with "great war," takes its name, he would have seen that some of the Spanish guerilla leaders against Napoleon had at times not fewer than fifty thousand men under their command, apart from the Spanish regular army, at times more or less under the control

of Wellington. It is the character of the operation rather than the numbers in the parties which distinguishes "little," in the classical sense, from "great" war. The theory of "great war" cannot tolerate the sudden dispersal and re-formation of forces which is the main feature of "little" war. Mr. Methuen's statements are somewhat strong for the impartial observer who belongs to neither side. He charges the Ministry with having directly "manufactured the fable of a Dutch conspiracy." He appears to suspect Sir William Harcourt and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman of having been parties to a fraud upon the public in the case of the South Africa inquiry. "It is impossible to separate facts from fiction in a mystery so dark; but one thing is certain. There was a secret which it was deemed impolitic to expose." Mr. Methuen gives two maps showing the extent of effective occupation by British forces on May 1st in the present year as compared with September 1st of last year. These must not be taken too literally. The 1900 map is far too favourable to ourselves, in showing the country in which Lord Methuen was operating as in our effective occupation. The garrisons at Boshof, Jacobsdal, as well as in Taungs and other places to the south-west of Kimberley, were all virtually besieged, and the country for hundreds of miles in the occupation of the Boers. Mr. Methuen's map gives us the Boshof and Jacobsdal country as now in the occupation of the Boers; but so far as there has been any change in this neighbourhood, it has been rather favourable to us than unfavourable, though the latter would be gathered from these maps. In Cape Colony the Boers are again near the coast where they were in January, although the territory in question is partly marked as in our effective occupation and partly excluded from the map by the margin. Mr. Methuen greatly underates the value of the mining rights which were the property of the South African Republic when he says of the concessions or mining rights, "The value of these rights has been exaggerated, and they probably will not realise more than 2,000,000l." The value of the entire mineral rights of the late republic is put, on the lowest sane estimate, at a figure vastly higher than that of 2,000,000l. sterling. Mr. Methuen has his own terms of peace to propose: he wishes to promise that the two late republics shall be provinces in a federation "on the lines of that of Australia; each of the Boer States, however, retaining its local legislature," words which show that he has forgotten that the States of the Commonwealth retain their local legislatures. But it is difficult to see how, in the case of a population so hostile to our rule as Mr. Methuen shows the Boer people to be, such intensely democratic institutions could speedily be brought into working order. Moreover, any such scheme absolutely sacrifices the natives. Mr. Methuen in his excellent narrative somewhat misses the true literary flavour of at least two of his well-known parallels from the time of the American war. Lord North expressed, in a nobler style than that quoted from some inferior version, his terror at the selection of generals by the War Office; and Burke's refusal of an indictment against a nation was free, we think, from unnecessary words. Mr. Methuen is hardly justified in denouncing "ill-informed criticisms.....attacks on our artillery—the very branch of the army whose services have been most heroic and distinguished." With considerable knowledge of the literature on the subject, we have not noticed attacks on the artillery in this sense. All have pronounced the services of the artillery admirable, but Lord Wolseley and Col. A' Court and other less authoritative experts have stated that our artillery should have been armed with quick-firing guns before the war; and Col. A' Court, who occupied a distinguished position in Sir Redvers Buller's army, has

pointed out that our artillery in the present war has never been used against a good artillery on the other side, so that its services are no test of what it could do against a good modern artillery, such as that of France.

Authors are avenged on Mr. Methuen for the misprints made by printers in their books, for he himself has fallen a victim to his own firm in "Weddreburn." His book forms an excellent statement on his own side, but it is not for a literary journal to take sides in this great dispute.

#### ALFRED THE GREAT.

*Alfred the Great.* By Warwick H. Draper. (Stock.)—The Alfred millenary has much to answer for. We have already reviewed a book bearing the above title, to which several distinguished writers contributed, and we lately noticed one that deals with Alfred and the abbeys that he founded. The *raison d'être* of the volume before us is not easy to discover, but its prospectus informs us that much of the literature concerning Alfred "is overlaid with the laborious detail of excessive scholarship or vitiated by the faults of careless or ignorant research." Mr. Draper accordingly supplies, first a slight sketch of the king's life and reign, and then "seven studies" in which "an attempt is made to throw the light of modern methods of scholarship and research, more familiarly employed in Greek and Roman history, upon special phases of King Alfred's reign." The "sketch" is too slight to add much to our knowledge, but it plays occasional havoc with places and persons alike. On a single page Alfred's son-in-law Æthelred, ealdorman of Mercia, appears as "Eadred, earl of the Mercians"; while of the Danes who fled "into Essex, those who reached the Colne valley encamped on Thorney Island in that river." The river Colne will be searched in vain for that island, which is now the site of Westminster Abbey. On the next page Mr. Draper falls into an ancient trap by mistaking Chester for Leicester. While one of Alfred's daughters appears as Æthelgeofu, Æthelred, his brother and predecessor, is strangely disguised as "Ethered," who "carried.....in impractical [*sic*] prayer," and Ælfric, abbot of the New Minster, as "Alwyn." We further learn of Alfred that "it is a fact that by his invention of the shires he anticipated the principles of the County Council legislation of ten centuries later"—an anachronism added to the crude and more than doubtful assertion that Alfred invented the shires. When we turn to "the more critical studies" by which the sketch is followed, we discover that the basis of social classification was in Alfred's time the hide of "thirty to thirty-three acres," an estimate now generally abandoned; and on the opposite page that "Folcland" was "the standing treasury of the country," and, in fact, everything that Vinogradoff, as recognized by English historians, has shown that it was not. The "Witena-gemot," it seems, "was not a purely representative assembly"; but then we were not aware that it was "representative" at all, or that the "witan" were those of its members who were not bishops, courtiers, or ealdormen. We can give but one instance more of Mr. Draper's learning. "Students," we read in the prospectus, "will welcome a supplement dealing with the 'Materials for the History of Alfred,'" and the author rightly warns us, as to mediæval chronicles, that "the evidence of such authorities is not first hand, and must be carefully weighed before being accepted for what it is worth." He then proceeds to place at their head Florence of Worcester, as "the one writer prior to the Norman Conquest who treats of the time of Alfred," and who "was the contemporary biographer of King Edward (1042-1051)." Florence, one of our best-known chroniclers, died, we need hardly observe, in 1118. He did not write before the Norman

Conquest, and he had nothing in the world to do with the biographer of King Edward. After Florence, Mr. Draper explains, comes "Ethelwerd, late in the same century"! On the contrary, this writer lived a hundred years earlier, and several generations before Florence. These blunders are the work of a "late scholar of University College," but we hope that they are not fairly representative of modern Oxford scholarship in history. They make one, in any case, extremely distrustful of the writer's "critical studies." The bibliography, we may add, should certainly have included Sir James Ramsay's 'Foundations of England' (1898), which contains an account of Alfred's reign far more important than is found in some of the works comprised in it. The one commendable feature in Mr. Draper's book is his attempt to illustrate his subject from archaeological evidence, in which he seems to have been assisted by Mr. Reginald Smith, of the British Museum. A short preface is contributed by the Bishop of Hereford.

*Alfred the West Saxon.* By Dugald Macfadyen. (Dent & Co.)—In "The Author's Apology," with which the volume opens, Mr. Macfadyen takes us into his confidence and tells us that "the book was undertaken at the request of a friend who found himself prevented, under doctor's orders, from preparing a life of King Alfred for this series in time for the millenary celebration of his reign." The series is one termed "Saintly Lives," and the author has evidently been overshadowed by this thought from beginning to end, and seems forced to introduce little tags from time to time to bring the story into harmony with this idea. Mr. Macfadyen is frank enough to admit his lack of qualifications for so serious an historical task, and complains of the "meagre historical equipment" of the local library of Hanley, where the work was written amid numerous and serious distractions. But why, then, should he attempt to cover some four hundred pages of a handsomely turned out and beautifully printed book on one of the greatest men these islands ever produced, especially as Alfred has already received suitable eulogies? There is a complete lack of assimilation of materials and weighing of divergences of statement. Apparently that is printed which seems striking or accords with the writer's own phase of mind. At the very opening, Roger de Hoveden's statement that Ethelwulf, Alfred's father, was Bishop of Winchester until compelled by necessity to become king is produced as if accurate. On the next page there is a crude and offhand declaration on the title question and Ethelwulf's testament, as if the matter was one on which all historical scholars were agreed. Probably the Hanley library did not include the works of the late Lord Selborne. At all events, whether right or wrong, the writer at the very outset raises a prejudice against himself by dogmatic assertions. In the description of Alfred's mother Tacitus's account of the Germans was sure to be quoted, and the famous pun attributed to Gregory as to the Anglo-Saxon children is brought into play; but it is a little surprising to find a reference in a foot-note to the part taken by the Boer women in the "recent war" as illustrative of the race from whom Alfred was descended on his mother's side. On p. 10 there is an account of the beautiful stole worked for Bishop Frithestan by Queen Ælfræd, and afterwards sent to adorn the body of St. Cuthbert. This stole, sacrilegiously removed from Cuthbert's coffin during recent years, and now exhibited in Durham Chapter library, is named here because Mr. Macfadyen thinks that the "deft fingers" of Alfred's mother did similar work. But the account of how it got to Durham, &c., is incorrect, or, at all events, improbable and incomplete. The number of minor mistakes is considerable and irritating. For instance, it is well known that there was a special rite for the anointing of Anglo-Saxon kings at the time of

their coronation, and it was impossible that this could be forestalled by Pope Leo when Alfred was at Rome. When the Danes wintered at Nottingham, the writer quotes Asser as to the name signifying "the house of caves," but blunders in a note by saying that "the name has reference, of course, to the cave which is now called Robin Hood's Cave, which still exists in Nottingham, and was even used as a house in this century." Every one who knows Nottingham, or has read any accurate account of the town, will laugh at this. The Nottingham caves, or cave-houses, are still numerous; two more have been discovered within the last few months. A few pages further on it is stated that there is only one "White Horse" besides that in Berkshire. Such mistakes are not very serious, but their frequency checks the modicum of praise that certain passages might otherwise obtain. Considerable extracts are given from other writers, and in these Mr. Macfadyen shows taste and discrimination. We are glad to notice that he has read and appreciated Mr. Simcox's admirable account of 'Alfred's Year of Battles,' which appeared in the *Historical Review* during 1886. As to comparisons, Mr. Macfadyen's imagination runs riot. He sees in Alfred's strategy reminders of Baden-Powell's scouting and Lord Roberts's approach to Bloemfontein!

Sometimes, when letterpress is disappointing, relief is to be gained from the illustrations. But herein the contrary is the case. A beautiful illustration of the art of church building at Winchester soon after Alfred's death might have been given from the tenth-century Benedictionale, the gem of the Chatsworth library, wherein the wondrous new steeple of the cathedral church is portrayed; but no, the tower of St. Michael's, Oxford, is given as an example of the style. Has the author been at Winchester? If he had, we think he would scarcely have given the three Winchester photographs here reproduced. 'The Ruins of Hyde Abbey' is one, whereas no ruins of the abbey really remain; and if they did, they would have no possible connexion with Alfred's work, for Alfred was not even the founder of its predecessor on another site. 'The Ruins of Wolvesey Abbey' is the title of another, whereas Winchester never had an abbey nor a religious house of such a name. The third is the worst of all; it represents a flat tombstone in "Hyde Abbey Churchyard," and bears at the head a small wooden cross on which are the words "Alfrid R." The plate is lettered beneath "Supposed Resting-Place of Alfred's Bones." But the fact is that the meagre ruins of Hyde Abbey were rooted up in 1788 to build a county gaol thereon. Immediately in front of the site of the high altar a stone coffin wrapped in lead was uncovered, which with fair presumption was supposed to be that of Alfred. The lead was sold for two guineas, the coffin broken up to be used in the prison foundations, and the bones flung aside on a heap of refuse. It is necessary to state these facts, noted by eyewitnesses, lest the peaceful imaginary grave of Alfred, so beautifully depicted at the close of this unfortunate book, should be visited by pious pilgrims in the ensuing autumn when the millenary celebration is in progress.

Mr. Frederic Harrison has printed a lecture delivered at Harvard on *The Writings of King Alfred* (Macmillan & Co.), which will, it is to be hoped, lead writers or readers on this now popular topic to the best sources of information.

#### EGYPTOLOGICAL BOOKS.

*The Mechanical Triumphs of the Ancient Egyptian.* By Commander Barber, U.S.N. (Kegan Paul & Co.)—In this excellent little book Commander Barber deals with the means adopted by the Pharaohs for raising their colossal monuments, and manages in a very few pages to clear away most of the cobwebs that have been



spun round the subject. With the common sense and practical knowledge of the sailor, he shows conclusively enough for most people that the Egyptians had no mechanical secrets not known to us now, and that the quarrying and transport of the huge blocks of stone necessary for their larger works, the raising of masses like obelisks, and the construction of the Pyramids were all within the capacity of manual labour. He reaches on other grounds the conclusion already arrived at by Prof. Mahaffy from historical sources, that the teeming population of the Nile valley made it necessary for the Pharaohs to employ a very large majority of the population at the same time on public works if they were to be saved from famine and rebellion. He reminds us, too, that in hot countries, where vegetable food is largely used, man-dragging is not only the most efficient, but often the cheapest mode of haulage; and that machinery, when used without some motive force like steam or electricity, decreases in power as it increases in complexity. He gives good reason for thinking that the Egyptians were acquainted with the pulley and perhaps the screw, as well as the simpler lever, wheel and axle, and inclined plane. It is a pity that the book was not more carefully corrected for the press, especially with regard to proper names.

*Libyan Notes.* By David Randall-Maciver and Anthony Wilkin. (Macmillan & Co.)—Stirred up, they tell us, by the prevailing theory among Egyptologists that the earliest Egyptian culture came from Libya, Mr. Maciver and Mr. Wilkin (a young man whose early death is to be deplored) made an expedition to Algeria last year, in the hope of obtaining some decisive evidence on the point. They spent much time among the Chawia (*Anglicè* shepherds) of the Aurès valley and the better-known Kabyles, observed their customs, took many photographs, and measured their heads, with the result that they found it "impossible any longer to maintain the view that the prehistoric Egyptians were Libyans." With this conclusion we have no quarrel whatever, but we think the means by which they arrived at it something less than scientific. What reason have they, for instance, for concluding that the modern Berbers, to which stock both Chawia and Kabyles belong, are the representatives of the ancient Libyans? MM. Malbot and Verneau, who visited them some four years ago, thought that the existence of fair hair and blue eyes among them was due not to Libyan or "Amorite" blood, but to the infusion of a German or Gallic strain from the legionaries of the Roman and Vandal armies so often encamped among them. And the singular habit—not mentioned in the present memoir—of trepanning the skull for very trifling ailments, or perhaps for merely superstitious reasons, is not attributed by Herodotus to the Libyans, while there is some evidence for thinking that its existence among the Chawia can be traced back to the Stone Age. Nor is the argument the authors would draw from the fact that the negro type copied by them from the proto-historic slates of Hieraconpolis and Abydos does not at all resemble the Libyans depicted in after times at all convincing; for the thick-lipped and bulbous-nosed personages of the carved slates are plainly represented as being conquered by what were afterwards the dynastic Egyptians, and on the great slate of Hieraconpolis are shown other victims of a much more Libyan type. Nor, again, can much weight be attached to the argument from language founded on Prof. Erman's dictum that the ancient Egyptian was a Semitic tongue. Prof. Erman, though he has done much good work in philology, has proved himself singularly unfortunate as a prophet; and his warning in 1895 that the age of great archaeological discoveries in Egypt was closed has been singularly falsified by events. Even if his Semitic

theory were likely—as it is not—to be generally accepted, it would hardly help the authors' contention, for do not Arabic words (of which Chawia is itself an example) abound in Berber? We have been thus careful with Mr. Maciver and Mr. Wilkin's arguments because their book is an example of the fabled froglike desire to appear as an ox, too common lately among works of this kind. That the authors' visit to Algeria not only gave pleasure to themselves, but also afforded some valuable data for science in the shape of craniometrical notes, may be granted. The results thus obtained might fitly have formed the subject of a communication to one of the learned societies which exist for that purpose, or to a technical journal like the *Recueil de Travaux* or the *Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache*. But what necessity was there to publish them in a highly priced quarto, in which the parade of tables and diagrams hardly makes up for the lack of general interest, or for the carelessness which has allowed the plates of processed photographs to be bound without protection and therefore to print themselves off upon the text? In connexion with this we note that the references to the plates in Petrie's 'Naqada and Ballas' are here incorrectly given, and that in a column of "Phonetic terms (French)" there appear none but Arabic syllables.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*How Sailors Fight: an Account of the Organization of the British Fleet in Peace and War* (Grant Richards), by John Blake, comes before us with an introduction of about 450 words by Capt. Hedworth Lambton, whose name appears prominently on the title-page as a sponsor of the book, and, by implication, responsible for the "tactical illustrations of the behaviour of modern fighting ships in action." It would be interesting, or, we might say, it is important, to know how far this responsibility extends—what value, in fact, attaches to the sponsorship. We incline to the opinion that the value is *nil*, and that the responsibility—serious enough—is limited to Capt. Lambton's having, with exaggerated good-nature, lent his name to a book which he had only glanced at in a cursory manner. It is impossible to suppose that any naval officer would approve of such expressions as "each man on the ship," "on a modern battle-ship," "on the Drake," "a cruise on a submarine," which are repeated over and over again; or of the statement that a seaman is now allowed as a daily ration, or rather as a drink with his dinner, "a gill of rum." But if we may suppose that Capt. Lambton is innocent of these and other atrocities of language or mis-statements of fact, then also we may suppose him innocent of opinions, stated in an *ex cathedra* manner, which are certainly not generally held by the service; and of the graphic description of an imaginary fight between one English and two French cruisers. The opinions and the tactical illustrations are, in fact, Mr. Blake's; and we are unfortunately ignorant of the grounds on which Mr. Blake can claim to be recognized as an authority on technical questions which are still subjects of controversy. The chapters were very well as they first appeared in a sixpenny magazine, and might awaken the interest of the public to which they were then addressed; we cannot but think it a mistake to bring them out of their natural environment to pose as "naval literature."

*Fact and Fable* (Chapman & Hall) is the name which Miss Effie Johnson has given to a pretty little book for children just published. It deals, however, much more with fable than fact, for it contains only two stories which are not (so-called) fables; and the right of the first of these to be considered as fact is lessened by the writer herself in her preface, in which she says:—

"That the reader may have some adequate idea of the many interesting facts concerning ant and termite life generally, the writer has introduced into the following story characteristics from different species (there are over a thousand known species of ants), as though they belonged to the two with which this story deals, in order to represent an adequate conglomerate of ant intelligence."

This is surely a false principle on which to act, and the ways of even the common ants, which children can easily see and watch, represent an amply sufficient amount of intelligence to interest and indeed startle "the conglomerate of intelligence" of any number of such watchers. The illustrations are by Olive Allen.

GRANDEUR of scenery is not an unmixed advantage to a country. It gets to be looked on as a happy hunting-ground for the tourist and the artist, and people forget that it has a history, and perhaps a literature. How many, we wonder, of the hundreds who yearly swarm over the Brenner—to risk, some their necks among dolomite crags, some their personal property on Italian railways—know that they are traversing a region as rich in historical and political associations as any of the same extent in Europe? In Innsbruck they have perhaps heard stories of Frederick with the empty purse—"Friedrich m. d. l. T.," as Tyrolese writers affectionately call him—his extravagance, his friendly ways with the peasants, and so on; or have seen his bronze effigy in the Hofkirche. But few, we imagine, realize that he was, so to say, a pioneer in the great work of the fifteenth century—the breaking of the feudal nobility—and a most important figure in the constitutional history of Tyrol; or that the struggle was mainly fought out in the valleys of the Etsch and Eisack. Few call to mind, as the train dashes between the porphyry cliffs that enclose the defile of the Kuntersweg, how near they are to the homes of two men famous in the roll of early German poets. Yet, as we pass the little station of Waidbruck, the Vogelweide is close by on our right, Wolkenstein not many hours' journey off on our left—the cradles, one of the first (at any rate the most famous), the other of the last, of South German Minnesingers. It is with the later of these sweet singers that we are now concerned. In her *Oswald von Wolkenstein* (Dent & Co.) Madame Villari has sketched the adventurous life of the knightly minstrel, and incidentally some parts of Frederick's, for the two crossed each other's paths a good deal in this world, and Oswald's history is very largely that of the struggle between the Tyrolese barons and their overlord, to which we have referred. Madame Villari, indeed, makes the poet take even a more prominent share in this than do the regular historians of Tyrol. As a matter of fact, he seems to have played a comparatively subordinate part in the rising against Frederick. He may have been, as Madame Villari says, the leading spirit in the *Adelsbündniss* of March, 1407, but the documents do not appear to countenance this view; and as a matter of fact, at the time when definite hostilities broke out between Frederick and the chiefs of the Bund Oswald had been two years out of the country. His brother Michael was a far more important personage in its counsels; it is significant that when Frederick went to Constance he took Oswald in his suite, but not Michael. While Madame Villari gives the general history correctly enough, she is often inaccurate in details; and details are of consequence in a "monograph," as we suppose this would be called. For instance, she says, "The old 'Elefantenbund,' in which Friedrich himself was enrolled, was dissolved in 1406 and reconstituted as the 'Adelsbund an der Etsch.'" The "Elefantenbund" came into existence on August 23rd, 1406, and was dissolved in the following March. Frederick's name does not

appear among its twenty-one members. On the other hand, he did (cleverly enough) enrol himself among the members of the second and more dangerous league, which, says Prof. Jäger, contrary to the then prevailing custom, adopted no special name. Surely, too, Frederick's famous nickname was not "won" till several years after this. At this time his purse was at any rate full enough to allow him to offer the leader of the disaffected nobility a retaining pension of 500 marks, with a view of attaching him to his service. Coming to a later part of the story, it is a little misleading to say, in relating the events of 1417, "Now that Heinrich von Rottenburg had been crushed, the Starkenberg brothers were the most influential nobles in Tyrol." At least, few would gather from this that Heinrich had been in his grave these six years. However, the story is well told in the main, and travellers through the Etschland will find that the ruined castles which guard every valley and crown every eminence of that "fabulous" district gain wonderfully in interest if they will take Madame Villari's little book as a companion. The illustrations, from photographs by Gratl, of Innsbruck, are somewhat too faint, but give a fair idea of the scenery amid which Oswald sang, mused, caroused, and fought. The castle of Greifenstein is a typical fortress of South Tyrol. With regard to its local name of "Sauschloss," we would suggest a more probable derivation than the story of the fat porker thrown over the walls to the besiegers. Every one who is at all familiar with Tyrolean colloquialisms knows the "pejorative" prefix *Sau-*. If Frederick, baffled by the impregnable crags of Greifenstein, did not make insulting remarks about "dieses Sauschloss," he was not so good a Tyrolean as we take him to have been; and the name would most likely stick.

As "Buffalo Bill" has already published an autobiography, and as, according to his sister, "with the fondest expectation he looks forward to the hour when he shall make his final bow to the public and retire to private life," although "it is his cherished desire," before that hour arrives, to perform in a fresh field greater exploits than any he can yet boast of, the only excuse that can be offered for the publication of *The Last of the Great Scouts: the Life-Story of Col. William F. Cody*, as told by his sister, Helen Cody Wetmore (Methuen & Co.), is that it is likely to be a saleable article. The excuse, however, will serve. Whether written by Mrs. Wetmore herself or by a more expert bookmaker, this volume is for the most part amusing, and one about which no trouble needs to be taken in trying to separate the fact from the fiction of which, beyond a doubt, it is also composed. All its value is in its romancing. If "Buffalo Bill" were as mythical a person as William Tell, or Robin Hood, or Jack the Giant-killer, or as much a creation of the story-teller as any one of Fenimore Cooper's heroes, the book would lose none of its interest. Such bald and presumably authentic statements as those concerning the locality and date—Le Clair, Scott County, Iowa, and February 26th, 1846—of Col. Cody's birth, his experiences as manager of the "Wild West" show, and so forth, seem almost out of place in a narrative full of improbabilities. The story opens briskly with the prophecy of "a celebrated fortune-teller," told to his mother before her marriage, that his name "would be known all over the world, and would one day be that of the President of the United States"; and its unfulfilled portion may yet come true. Meanwhile there is enough to astonish us in the stories of wholesale slaughtering of Indians and of daring adventures as a scout during the American Civil War before the more familiar and prosaic tale of the showman's successes is reached.

*La Légion Klapka, un Épisode de la Guerre de 1866*, par le Major Z\*\*\* (Paris, Librairie Militaire, R. Chapelot), is an account of Bismarck's Hungarians based on a recent publication at Vienna. The French writer, who is evidently a well-known Jewish military author, sympathizes with the Austrians, who caught one member of the legion, sentenced him to hanging, reduced the sentence to shooting and then to ten years' imprisonment, and finally were made by Bismarck to let him off as an officer of "Prussian partisans." Similar favour was not granted in 1870 by the Prussians to a similar body, Baron de Malortie's Hanoverians.

AMID the crowd of books, good, bad, and indifferent, on China, two reprints may be recommended of standard value: *Society in China*, by Prof. R. K. Douglas (Ward, Lock & Co.), with a chapter on recent events; and *Sir Harry Parkes in China*, by Prof. Stanley Lane-Poole (Methuen). Both of these volumes contain new prefaces, and at their present cheap price should meet a wide demand.

Felix Holt has been added to the capital "Warwick Edition" of George Eliot (Blackwood).

WE have on our table Cassell's *Pictorial Guide to the Clyde* (Cassell).—*Dickens as an Educator*, by J. L. Hughes (Arnold).—*Dent's School Grammar of Modern French*, by G. H. Clarke and C. J. Murray (Dent).—*English Cathedrals*, by the Rev. T. Perkins (Bell).—*The Picture Shakespeare: Julius Caesar* (Blackie).—*Mr. Epictetus, Jun.*, his Book, wherein is set forth a Common-sense Philosophy, by B. Walker (Heywood).—*The Philosophy of the Short Story*, by B. Matthews (Longmans).—*How to Write a Novel* (Grant Richards).—*Gardening for Beginners*, by E. T. Cook (Newnes).—*Outdoor Games: Cricket and Golf*, by H. R. Lyttelton (Dent).—*Bonanza*, by E. G. Henham (Hutchinson).—*The Great Noddleshire Election*, by J. A. Farrer (Fisher Unwin).—*The Lover's Replies to an Englishwoman's Love Letters* (Low).—*The Missing Answers to an Englishwoman's Love Letters* (Simpkin).—*Collaborators, and other Poems*, by A. W. Webster (Stock).—*Lays of Love and Travel*, by Nyrac (Skeffington).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Gilbert (G. H.), *The First Interpreters of Jesus*, 5/ net.

## Law.

McCallin (W.), *Introduction to Medical Jurisprudence*, 8vo, 4/ net.

Poore (G. V.), *A Treatise on Medical Jurisprudence*, 12/ net.

## Poetry and the Drama.

Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, 32mo, 2/6 net. (Bibels.)

Lusus Regius, being Poems and other Pieces by King James

First, now first set forth by R. S. Ball, 42/ net.

Rudland (M.), *Poems of the Race*, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Wordsworth (William), *Selections from the Poems of*

edited by N. C. Smith, 12mo, 1/6 net.

## Music.

Bache (C.), *Brother Musicians*, cr. 8vo, 6/ net.

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Walsh (C. M.), *The Measurement of General Exchange*

Value, 8vo, 17/ net.

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Boulger (D. C.), *India in the Nineteenth Century*, 6/ net.

Bron (A.), *Diary of a Nurse in South Africa*, translated by

G. A. Raper, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Butler (J.), *In Memoriam Harriet Martineau*, 8vo, 5/

Chevalier de St. George and the Jacobite Movements in his

Favour, 1701-20, edited by C. S. Terry, 18mo, 5/

Crane (S.), *Great Battles of the World*, cr. 8vo, 6/

Rait (R. S.), *An Outline of the Relations between England*

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edited by Hon. J. A. Home, roy. 8vo, 21/ net.

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George, First Marquess Townsend, 1724-1807, 16/

Venn (J.), *Calculus*, Cambridge, cr. 8vo, 8/ net.

Vetch (R. H.), *Life, Letters, and Diaries of Lieut.-General*

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Washington (B. T.), *Up from Slavery*, 8vo, 6/ net.

## Geography and Travel.

Blashfield (R. H.) and E. Willbour, *Italian Cities*, 2 vols. 12/

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## Philology.

Euripides, *Medea*, edited by J. Thompson and T. R. Mills,

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Virgil, *Æneid*, Book 4, edited by A. H. Allcroft and A. E. W.

Hazel, cr. 8vo, 3/

## Science.

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Gernet (A. v.), *Geschichte u. System des bürgerlichen*

Agrarrechts in England, 16m.

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Spiegelberg (W.), *Ägyptische u. griechische Eigennamen*

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## Poetry.

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## SIR W. BESANT.

SIR WALTER BESANT had been in failing health since the beginning of the year, and consequently his death cannot be said to have been altogether a surprise to his friends, however they may have tried to blind their eyes to the fact that the strain he had habitually put upon his powers must sooner or later end either in death or in his condemnation to the position of an habitual invalid. The end that has come is the end he would have wished. It cannot be doubted that so active and strenuous a man had no wish to survive his powers.



Born in 1836, and educated at Cambridge under the eye of his brother, the Senior Wrangler of 1850, Walter Besant was eighteenth Wrangler in the Tripos of 1859, and two years afterwards sailed for Mauritius as Vice-Principal of the Royal College there. At Mauritius he formed a warm friendship with the late Mr. Dykes Campbell, afterwards the biographer of Coleridge, and spent a good deal of his spare time in the study of French literature; but a few years after his arrival there he suffered from the fever which broke out in the island, and was consequently glad to return to England. In London he brought out his first book, his 'Studies in Early French Poetry,' which from its pleasant style obtained a certain success, but showed at the same time that the writer had hardly made himself sufficiently acquainted with the advances in the study of early French which had been achieved in France and Germany under the influence of Diez.

Besant became secretary in 1868 of the newly established Palestine Exploration Fund, and this led him to pay attention to the geography of Palestine. In conjunction with Prof. Palmer he wrote a history of 'Jerusalem, the City of Herod and Saladin,' and to a series styled 'The New Plutarch,' of which he was joint editor, he contributed a life of Coligny. Some years later he published a biography of his friend Prof. Palmer, a delightful book, which was appreciated even by the Philistine.

By the time the latter appeared he had made a reputation as a novelist. At first he was exceedingly doubtful what view the Committee of the Exploration Fund would take of their secretary's efforts in fiction. In order to preserve his anonymity, he left the making of all the publishing arrangements to his partner James Rice, and tried zealously to conceal his share in the novels. Often a friend, on knocking at the door of his room at the office in the Adelphi, would hear, before he cried "Come in!" his desk close with a sharp bang, thus concealing the French novel which amused the secretary's leisure or the manuscript of his own forthcoming work from the gaze of any visitor who desired information about the exploration of the Holy Land. But speedily the success of his books was sufficient to enable him to avow his authorship, and the rewards of literature in time became so considerable that he was able to renounce his secretaryship.

As a novelist Besant made his first success, as has been remarked, in collaboration with James Rice. He had tried his hand earlier, writing a story which the publishers rejected, and which he had the good sense to burn. Rice, who was about seven years his junior, became proprietor and editor of *Once a Week* in 1868, and Besant contributed occasional short stories. In 1871 the editor, who had also written a bad novel or two, showed his contributor the first few chapters of 'Ready-Money Mortiboy,' and it was agreed between them that they should join forces in completing it. The definite idea, the plot and characters, were Rice's, and so probably was much of the quaint humour and accurate observation. It seems reasonable to say, in the light of Besant's subsequent and independent work, that he either shared with or caught from Rice his definite freshness of idea and bold characterization, to which he added his own circumstantiality, amounting at times to a tedious stress and iteration—a trick, it may be, inherited from Anthony Trollope. The Rice-Besant novels extended over a period of ten years, and include 'My Little Girl,' 'With Harp and Crown,' 'This Son of Vulcan,' 'The Golden Butterfly' (printed serially in the *World*), 'The Monks of Thelema,' 'By Celia's Arbour,' 'The Chaplain of the Fleet,' and 'The Seamy Side.' 'Ready-Money Mortiboy' was published for the authors on commission;

from 1875 Messrs. Chatto & Windus became their publishers. Some of the best traits in these collaborations were doubtless due to Besant; in any case we may note what appears to be their spontaneous continuance after Rice's death in 1882. But the final judgment, we imagine, must be that the novels published up to this date have an advantage in point of literary spirit and verisimilitude over those written by Besant alone. They are not deep and not great, but they form as pleasant a body of reading as can be found outside Dickens.

Besant's independent stories include 'The Revolt of Man,' 'All Sorts and Conditions of Men,' 'All in a Garden Fair,' 'Dorothy Forster,' 'Children of Gibeon,' 'For Faith and Freedom,' 'The Ivory Gate,' 'The Rebel Queen,' 'The Fourth Generation,' and 'The Lady of Lynn'—which last is in course of serial publication. He is said to have left behind him another story of the eighteenth century—an epoch to which he was specially attracted when he found himself in the historic vein. Though he made most money out of what we may call his East-End series, he himself, perhaps with true insight, preferred the romances which he had set in earlier times and circumstances, where the strain of faithful transcript from life was less severe. The best of all his novels he held to be 'Dorothy Forster,' which carries us back to the Old Pretender and the Earl of Derwentwater. The most popular and effective of his stories, from any other than a literary standpoint, was 'All Sorts and Conditions of Men,' published in 1882, of which something like a quarter of a million copies have been sold in this country and America. The effect produced on the public mind by this novel, and the 'Children of Gibeon' and others which succeeded it, was not a little remarkable. They appeared at a time when the expression of sympathy between the West and East Ends of London had already begun to bear fruit, and when the University settlement in Whitechapel had fully justified its existence. Besant's East-End novels hit the mood of the moment, and there can be no doubt that they contributed largely to the practical outcome of a philanthropic movement. Judged by literary canons, they must be regarded as somewhat too artificial in their construction, and the leading characters, which typify altruistic virtues with some success, do not always produce the illusion which one expects from genuinely artistic creations. This particular vein of Besant's was at once most effective and least convincing. Its ethical and practical purpose was sometimes too conspicuous as a matter of literary form, but it may be pleaded that the purpose was nearly always achieved.

To many Besant was best known by his share in the work of the Society of Authors, to which he gave an immense deal of time and attention, from no other motive than a desire to benefit other men of letters. He certainly had no reason to complain of his own literary gains. Yet the subject long occupied his mind. Some years before he founded the Society he had published a novel anonymously through Messrs. Blackwood. Issued in one volume, it had run through four editions—none of them large, however—in a reasonably short space of time; but, naturally enough, the profits to be divided between the author and his publishers were not considerable; and when speaking of the smallness of the results, and showing us the accounts, he pointed out with what extreme fairness the latter were drawn up. Unfortunately, when he started his Society, he did not long retain this reasonableness of view. He drifted into a habit of considering that not merely were there rogues in the trade, but that practically all publishers somehow took an unfair advantage of authors. He forgot that in a joint venture the capitalist must usually obtain a

greater share of profit than the man who does not furnish the capital, and he seemed to imagine that somehow the natural effect of economic laws could be altered in favour of the author. No doubt his work was useful in driving swindlers out of the publishing world, but he also created much bitterness of feeling. Yet all the time his motives were thoroughly honest, and his endeavours to obtain just treatment for authors were devoid of any taint of self-interest.

Of late years he had been engaged, at the head of a considerable staff, in preparing 'A New Survey of London,' of which an account appeared in the *Athenæum* last year. In the course of his labours he threw off the pleasant volumes on 'Westminster,' 'London,' 'South London,' and 'East London' which have appeared at irregular intervals, but the great work itself was not quite completed when the pen dropped from his hand.

A most warm-hearted, sympathetic man, he was always ready to assist any literary craftsman by advice and encouragement, and, if need be, with money, and his death means the loss of a man who was never weary of well-doing, and who, if he sometimes wrote hotly, was prompted by the best of motives and was essentially kindly and generous.

#### THE PUBLISHERS' CONGRESS AT LEIPZIG.

EACH international Congress of Publishers is characterized by a growing importance, both in the attendance and the subjects which are brought forward for consideration and discussion. At the Congresses which were held at Paris in 1896, at Brussels in 1897, and at London in 1899, subjects of international interest to authors, publishers, and booksellers have not only been capably discussed, but in many instances arrangements have been concluded which have been to the mutual advantage of the book trade of the various nationalities represented. The fourth Congress opened at Leipzig on Sunday, June 9th, when the President, Herr Albert Brockhaus, gave a reception to the various delegates attending the Congress.

The business meetings were inaugurated by the delivery of the presidential address, in which Herr Brockhaus welcomed the delegates and spoke of the work of the Paris Congress, which introduced the metric system, and of the Congress which led to the Berne Convention. He announced the division of the present meeting into two sections, instead of three as heretofore: (1) authors' and publishers' rights; (2) administrative and purely technical questions of the book trade. A third section was, however, added, to consider the music trade. He suggested that a fourth section, for the art trade, would soon be required. He announced this year 400 members, as against 215 in London, 138 in Brussels, and 200 in Paris. M. Émile Bruylant and Mr. John Murray were appointed Honorary Presidents, as well as Herr Carl Engelhorn, recently chief director of the *Börsenverein der deutschen Buchhändler in Leipzig*, and M. René Fournet (of Hachette & Cie.), who took the place of M. Georges Masson, a former distinguished President, whose loss was deeply deplored. He also announced that the President of the Leipzig Chamber of Commerce had consented to be an Honorary President; while the Rector of the University and several other distinguished guests were present.

Amongst the delegates and members attending the Congress were Messrs. E. Bruylant, O. Forst, and E. Vandeveld (Belgium); T. Brown (China and Japan); F. Baedeker, J. K. Bielefeld, K. C. Engelhorn, K. O. Harrassowitz, K. W. Hiersemann, Dr. H. Meyer, Dr. F. B. Tauchnitz, Dr. Karl Trübner, and A. Twietmeyer (Germany); MM. F. Brunetière, R. Fournet, L. Layus, and P. Ollendorff (France); Dr. W. Hoepli (Italy); and Messrs.

D. C. Heath and G. H. Putnam (America). Messrs. John Murray, F. Macmillan, W. Heinemann, T. Fisher Unwin, R. T. Wright (Cambridge Press), T. Houlston, G. Duckworth, and the English secretary, Mr. E. G. Fairholme, were among the representatives from London.

#### HUCHOWN.

Cambridge, June 4th, 1901.

MR. GEORGE NEILSON'S "expiscation" of Huchown is excellent sport. The patient angler may be forgiven if he occasionally mistakes the particular eddies in which the great prize may be expected to rise.

I venture to think that Mr. Neilson's latest effort will not prove successful. He assumes (1) the identity of authorship of 'Troy,' 'Titus,' and 'Morte Arthure'; and then (2) proceeds to arrange the poems chronologically: "'Titus' follows and uses 'Troy'; the 'Morte Arthure' follows and uses the 'Titus';" "the limits of dates for the three works are therefore 1358 and 1376."

It is not possible to maintain this identity of authorship. 'Morte Arthure,' on linguistic, metrical, and other grounds, must be differentiated from the other poems. 'Titus' belongs to the South-West (the first six hundred lines contain about a dozen instances of the prefixed *y*, evidently not due to the scribe, but original); 'Troy' is a Northern poem, belonging to a period when the final *e* had already well-nigh ceased to be pronounced; 'Morte Arthure' shows just the contrary characteristic. If Huchown died in 1376, he had probably been dead some ten years before the 'Troy' was written. These linguistic criteria help to strengthen the very great probability that lines 8053-4 of the poem refer directly to Chaucer's 'Troilus.'—

Turne him to Troilus & takke there ynough

(cf. Skeat, 'Troilus,' p. lxi); its date would therefore be at least after 1380.

Nor from the standpoint of style could the 'Morte' have been later than 'Titus': the former poem, though more ambitious and planned on a grander scale, does not show an equal command of the alliterative instrument; at times one feels a sense of disappointment at certain recurring weak tags ("what the lykys," "wham them lykys," "when the lykys"); there is greater strength in the short 'Titus.' I doubt whether half a dozen similar characteristic weaknesses could be found in the whole poem. The "correct," though poor 'Troy' shows a different touch altogether. It is quite possible that 'Titus' owes something to 'Troy'; and herein rests the value of some of Mr. Neilson's parallel passages. But one must be very cautious in dealing with alliterative tempests, battle scenes, and descriptions of armour; there was much that was common property to these old poets, of whose work we have in all probability lost a very large proportion.

Mr. Neilson completes the initial stage of his propositions by asking and answering further questions, all tending to confirm his view that the 'Morte Arthure' followed 'Titus'; but surely the author of the former poem might very well know his Hegesippus or Josephus without having composed an alliterative poem on the subject of the destruction of Jerusalem. Mr. Neilson's answers to his questions are, however, altogether inconclusive, or at least they would conduct us "to most preposterous conclusions."

While hazarding this brief criticism, I desire, in common with other students of the subject, to thank Mr. Neilson for his splendid championship of the elusive poet "Huchown of the Awle Ryale." The linguistic difficulties which have caused our esteemed expert Mr. Henry Bradley and other distinguished scholars to doubt the Scottish origin of the 'Morte' are of a most perplexing

character. There is, I venture to think, but one satisfactory solution of the problem, if (as seems incontestable) the 'Morte' and 'Susan' are both by the same author, namely this: that the Scotch poet, having no native traditions of alliterative poetry of a high order, deliberately set himself the task of imitating the great school of West-Midland English alliterative poetry, to the extent of even copying its practice in the matter of the grammatical *-e* (much in the same way as later on other Scotch poets fell under the spell of the great East-Midland Englishman Chaucer). This would explain 'Morte Arthure,' and may also explain the puzzling rhymes of 'Susan.' Briefly, I would suggest that Huchown was a disciple of the school of the West-Midland author of 'Gawain,' and that the 'Morte' bears the same relationship to the 'Susan' that the great romance of 'Gawain' does to the great lyric of the 'Perle.'

I. GOLLANCZ.

Clarendon Press, Oxford.

MR. NEILSON'S letter printed in the *Athenæum* of June 1st is a singular mixture of valuable fact and worthless speculation. His proof that the author of the 'Titus' copied extensively from the 'Troy,' though not altogether new, is thankworthy in its completeness. When he claims to have demonstrated that the 'Troy,' the 'Titus,' and the 'Morte Arthure' were written in that order, and are all by one hand, one can only marvel at his notion of what constitutes proof. What he has really shown, unwittingly and against his will, is that the author (or reviser) of the 'Titus' plagiarized from the 'Morte Arthure' as well as from the 'Troy.'

The only documentary evidence as to the authorship of the versified translation of Guido's 'Troy' is that of the table of contents, which refers to a passage (not now extant) in book xxxvi., containing "the nome of the knight that causit it to be made, and the nome of hym that translatid it out of Latyn into English." We have here a distinct statement that the translation (like 'William of Palerne,' which contains an exactly similar passage) was made by a scholar at the command of a patron. This testimony, which is in perfect agreement with the internal evidence of the style, is tacitly rejected by Mr. Neilson. He invites us to believe that one of the foremost nobles of the Scottish kingdom, a busy statesman, lawyer, and courtier, could find leisure and motive to render Guido's Latin into more than 14,000 lines of verse, besides producing a mass of other translated and original poetry nearly equal in amount. Such an astounding proposition would seem to require very weighty proofs; but, so far as I can see, not even the semblance of evidence has been offered in its favour.

Mr. Neilson has somehow persuaded himself that he proves the priority of the 'Titus' to the 'Morte Arthure' by simply showing that the two poems have certain features or incidents in common. Two of the four points which he adduces, however, pretty clearly prove the contrary of his proposition. The dragon banner and the description of the arming of Arthur belong to the Arthurian tradition, being found in Wace and his successors. They are therefore in their proper place in the 'Morte Arthure,' and their introduction in the Jerusalem story, with some of the phrases of the 'Morte Arthure,' is an obvious mark of imitation on the part of the author of the 'Titus.' According to Mr. Neilson, the reason why the poet of the 'Morte Arthure' used these incidents in the right place was that he had previously used them in a wrong place. Mr. Neilson's other two points are simply irrelevant. His question why in the 'Morte Arthure' the vows are taken on the Holy Vernacle is sufficiently answered by remarking that the words *avoue* and *vernacle*

alliterate in *v*. The Vernacle was so familiarly known in the fourteenth century that no other explanation is necessary. As to the shaving of the ambassadors, the incident has its obvious suggestion in the Old Testament, and the assertion that it was transferred from the 'Titus' to the 'Morte Arthure,' instead of *vice versa*, is quite arbitrary. Of course, if Mr. Neilson had shown that this incident was found in the Latin source of the 'Titus' story, the fact would have been a real, though not a weighty, argument on his side; but he has not even attempted to do this.

The enthusiasm of fancied discovery is a dangerous thing. Nothing else, I am persuaded, could have led so able a man as Mr. Neilson to imagine that he had proved his case by such arguments as those contained in his letter. However, he is rendering valuable service in his minute comparison of texts; and if his perseverance in this good work is dependent on the continuance of his mistaken views, I am tempted to wish that he may long retain them.

HENRY BRADLEY.

#### ROBERT WILLIAM BUCHANAN.

THE death occurred on Monday last of Robert Buchanan, journalist, critic, novelist, and dramatist. He was born in 1841, and came to London in 1860 as, to use his own words, "a literary adventurer, with no capital but a sublime self-assurance," and starred in what David Gray called a "dear old ghastly bankrupt garret." He was, however, befriended by Sydney Dobell and the future Lord Houghton, and as early as 1861 was reviewing for the *Athenæum*, for which he wrote for several years. He contributed, for instance, a judicious criticism of 'The Ring and the Book' in 1868. In 1871 came the furious attack by "Thomas Maitland" on Swinburne and Rossetti in the *Contemporary Review*. Rossetti, to whom the results of the onslaught were disastrous, replied in our own pages. Violent writing was unfortunately only too characteristic of Buchanan. He was always at war with somebody, and spent much of his energy in making himself impossible to his friends and well-wishers. The bitterness of his early struggles was some excuse for this, but the years after he had made his position might well have brought more wisdom, more moderation of tone and language. His contempt for all contemporary criticism may be seen, for instance, in his 'Look Round Literature,' in 1886, and 'The Devil's Case,' in 1896, when he became his own publisher for a time. In this poem he was a Lucifer railing against

the cliques of Heaven,  
Who for ever and for ever  
Roll the Log and praise the Lord.

It was the lifelong complaint again of no fair criticism or recognition, false gods everywhere, a literary Inquisition! It was hardly surprising to find such assertions resulting in the record that

the laws of Earth and Heaven  
Seemed one vast Receiving Order.

Buchanan left singularly little praise of his contemporaries. To Charles Reade only was he generous. It is not necessary, nor would it be desirable, to write out the long list of his aversions. Such a man made it difficult for others to appreciate him. He did not, however, lack official recognition, being pensioned in 1870 "in consideration of his merits as a poet."

His energies were too much dissipated to secure permanent success in any line. As poet his possibilities were greatest—he was poignant, if pungent; he showed a genuine lyric gift, a *cri du cœur* which put him above many lauded bards of to-day. His 'Undertones' (1860) and 'London Poems' (1866), which led the public to regard him as one of the rising poets, were never followed by any great poetic advance; he was too impatient and probably too facile



to be anything but unequal, yet his claim that he preached spiritual things to a materialistic generation may be easily underrated to-day. In his more ambitious poetry, such as 'Napoleon Fallen,' he was unequal to his theme. Showing great ability in many departments, he was an adept at echoing the thoughts and modes of his day; and his originality has often been questioned. When Science was the new gospel and Humanity was writ so large, he was a philosopher after Lewes and George Eliot; Reade influenced him as novelist; as poet he had evidently read Heine. His most effective work was, perhaps, in adaptations for the stage. His novels, which will not last, if they are not already forgotten, were melodramatic, but effective enough. 'The Shadow of the Sword' and 'God and the Man' were the best of them. Froude found 'Foxglove Manor' "the worst novel he ever read." A great fighter, confident in his own powers and ever ready to strike, Buchanan had his generous side too, and aspirations to higher things. Pity it was that his life did not answer to his ideals. It has the pathos of unresting work, of limited achievement, of misunderstanding. He has gone where *seva indignatio* can vex him no more.

DR. GARDINER, OLIVER CROMWELL, AND MAJOR-GENERAL OVERTON.

WITH hearty concurrence in the high estimate most ably expressed in the *Athenæum*, No. 3829, of Dr. Gardiner's third volume of the 'History of the Commonwealth,' still it may be noticed that occasionally he regards the Protector's career too exclusively from the Protector's point of view, and disregards the feelings and opinions of his subjects. Subjects are an all-important item in the stock-in-trade of a chief magistrate, and their opinions, especially regarding their Protector, are an equally essential ingredient in the story of his Protectorate.

Dr. Gardiner, for instance, maintains towards Major-General Overton, "the upright and blameless Overton," "who was," to use Mr. Morley's words, "arbitrarily flung into prison without trial" by the Protector, a tone of distant dryness that would have been to him most highly acceptable. Overton was a noble example of a true Puritan soldier; he was "bound to" Milton, "these many years past, in a friendship of more than brotherly closeness and affection." He was seen standing firmly, again using Milton's words, "in that memorable battle of Marston Moor, repelling amid thick carnage on both sides the assaults of the foe."

This was the man who was immured by the Protector throughout his lifetime in rigorous imprisonment, because, as Dr. Gardiner suggests, Cromwell deemed that he might "possibly" be induced to become a conspirator against the Government. An apology for an act of illegal severity that depends upon a "possibly" calls for an apology on its own account. Dr. Gardiner, moreover, leaves wholly out of sight a wrong, more grievous even than wrongful imprisonment, which the Protector inflicted upon Overton. The condemnation passed by Parliament on Overton's imprisonment is also not mentioned.

Dr. Gardiner does not seek for any other justification of Cromwell's conduct. If he locked up Overton because the republican principles to which he was faithful were a perpetual and active menace to the Protectorate, that danger was more ripe than history reveals. If Overton was imprisoned because he was personally distasteful to the group of army officers who created the Protectorate—and Cromwell, acting as their spokesman regarding Overton, told Col. Hutchinson that "we do not like him" ('Memoirs,' Bohn's edition, p. 341)—then the

matter of Overton was a precursor of the Dreyfus affair.

This is the Protector's case as against Overton. The major-general was, during the closing months of 1654, in command, under Monk, of the troops quartered in Aberdeen. Overton was undoubtedly aware that six officers, a private soldier, and an army chaplain met in Aberdeen, December, 1654, and addressed a circular to their "Christian friends in General Monk's regiment," urging them "to assert the freedom of the people in the privileges of Parliament"; but he made no report to Monk regarding that meeting and the circular. Monk recalled Overton from Aberdeen, put him under arrest, shipped him off to London, and "on the day of his arrival, January 16th, 1655, Overton was committed to the Tower, and he remained a prisoner there, and elsewhere, for more than five years" (vol. iii. p. 75).

That failure of duty is the only fact proved against Overton. To no definite act on his part, however, Dr. Gardiner ascribes Overton's imprisonment, but to this cause. His name was brought before the Government by an incoherent and fragmentary document, very fully set out by Dr. Gardiner (vol. iii., n. 1, p. 72), headed 'Notes of Major Wildman's Plot by Secretary Thurloe.' The notes profess to give a summary of the deliberations of a group of notorious Levellers in London during the autumn of 1654, and contain these words:

"Begin with a mutiny of the troops in Scotland, and then his [Monk's] person seized, and put in Edinburgh Castle which they were sure of, forced Overton to command."

These last four words are only interpretable as expressing the hope of the plotters that the major-general might be compelled to head the mutineers; and Dr. Gardiner supposes that "it was this possibility which made Overton really dangerous. An efficient soldier, so infirm of purpose as to be the plaything of conspirators with whose general objects he sympathized, was scarcely the man to be left at large."

Dr. Gardiner takes for granted that Overton was "infirm of purpose," and we, in our turn, may take for granted that Dr. Gardiner has some proof for that assertion. Be this as it may, no justification is possible for the disgraceful use that Cromwell made of that suppositional implication of Overton in the mutiny, to which I venture to give the publicity that Dr. Gardiner has withheld.

It may be remembered that during March, 1655, an abortive royalist insurrection took place, of which the rising at Salisbury was the most conspicuous incident. Although the Levellers' mutiny was apparently timed for the winter of 1654, and Overton was consigned to the Tower some two months before the rising took place, still he was thus by the following official document brought into connexion with that event. The "Declaration of His Highness by the advice of his Council showing the reasons of their proceedings for securing the Peace of the Commonwealth upon occasion of the late Insurrection and Rebellion," published October, 1655, contains this statement:—

"Another thing which the enemy had laid as necessary at least to keep company with their intended insurrection, was that part of the army in Scotland should have mutinied, surprised their generals, thrown off their officers, and marched up to London under the command of Major-General Overton, who was designed for that purpose."

The purport of these words is clear. Overton was held up and exhibited to England as a renegade, a traitor of the worst type; as a general officer who would head a mutiny, lead his soldiers against their comrades, and let them loose upon their fellow-citizens. Overton, moreover, who was undoubtedly an "upright and blameless" republican, was charged with treachery towards his brother mutineers, and as intending to bring them into line with the forces of the Royalists.

A public accusation on presumably just grounds of a man wholly unable to defend himself is, according to the common law of human kind, a grave offence. What, then, is the magnitude of the offence that Cromwell committed against Overton? Speaking as the chief magistrate of the nation, of a man whom he had himself consigned to a living grave, Cromwell accused Overton of being a treacherous soldier, citizen, and republican; his sole warranty for that charge being statements contained in those unauthenticated notes, and an anonymous letter addressed to Monk. And Cromwell knew when he made that charge that for it he had no other foundation. Judge Advocate Whalley was sent to Edinburgh to collect evidence against Overton by examination of his papers and his republican associates. Whalley was quite unsuccessful. He was forced to inform the Protector that "though he had much trouble with the officers to obtain their depositions," and had omitted nothing "of his duty to his uttermost ability," he could obtain no information against Major-General Overton, except that he had seen the letter addressed to the "Christian friends" in Monk's regiment before it was put into circulation, and did not warn him thereof.

Why did Cromwell do this grievous wrong to himself and his prisoner? This may have been the cause. If Overton's imprisonment did not cause amongst the Protector's subjects deep indignation and resentment, they would have been most unworthy Englishmen. They were not so unworthy. They did feel strong resentment, though they could not give expression to their indignation during Cromwell's lifetime; and he may have felt that it was desirable that he should justify himself in that matter. He did not dare to produce Overton in a court of law; he blackened his character. Whatever was his motive, put it how you may, the Protector's offence against his prisoner was a breach of common justice and of the instincts of common humanity.

Overton evidently was a difficulty to the Protector. He did not dare to try him, he did not dare to let him out; and as time ran on he did not dare to leave him in the Tower. It was there, as Dr. Gardiner tells us, that Overton was first imprisoned, and then "elsewhere." For "elsewhere" read "the Castle of Jersey." The Protector, in January, 1657/8, apparently feared that danger might arise from the illegal commitment of the prisoners detained in the Tower; that their imprisonment might be brought before the judges. Overton, according to popular notion, intended to apply for a writ of *habeas corpus*. Accordingly, "Oliver P.," by warrant "given at Whitehall, 8 Jan., 1657," directed the Governor of the Island of Jersey to receive into his "charge the body of Robert Overton, Esquire"—he had, it may be presumed, been cashiered from the army—and also the bodies of four Royalists.

Overton, thus put out of sight, was not out of mind. When England was set free by the Protector's death Parliament sent for Overton. He was received when he entered London by an enthusiastic crowd of admirers, "some in coaches, some on horseback, some with their wives, others on foot." Overton, "who was brought so weak by four years' imprisonment that he could scarce go over the floor" of the House, was heard at the bar. All that he asked for was that he might hear the charge brought against him. Oliver Cromwell's warrant was laid upon the table, and Parliament resolved (March 16th, 1659) that the commitment and detainer of Robert Overton, Esq., being by

"warrant under the hand of the Chief Magistrate alone.....wherein there is no cause expressed, is illegal and unjust, and that he be discharged of his imprisonment."

It may be urged that an event in the year 1659 does not appertain to a volume devoted to the years 1654-6, and that Dr. Gardiner is writing the history not of Overton, but of Cromwell. Yet to a historian the end of a transaction is present with the beginning; and the judgment passed by Parliament on the Protector's imprisonment of Overton was a "coming event" that cast its shadow over England during the years 1655 and 1656. It shows what his subjects thought about the prisoner and the Protector. How could they help regarding Cromwell as a hypocrite? He habitually posed as the Protector of the people of God, whilst he was, year after year, treating with cruel injustice one of the most eminent among those who, to use Cromwell's words, "had been instrumental by God to fight down the enemies of God and of His people."

Nor can it be maintained that the statement in the "Declaration of His Highness" charging Overton with complicity in mutiny is of such slight significance that it might be left unnoticed. It was one of those miserable expedients to which Cromwell was driven for the maintenance of his Government, and illustrates the force of the necessity which sank him so low. Cromwell was not a man who would have inflicted, save by compulsion, an act of mean injustice upon any one, far less a brother soldier. Yet somehow he was compelled to hold up one of the heroes of Marston Moor to the scorn and hatred of his brethren as a traitor and renegade, whilst wholly unfurnished with any substantial evidence in support of that monstrous accusation.

If Dr. Gardiner shrinks from the matter of Overton, how will he be able to face the case Sir Henry Slingsby, another of Cromwell's prisoners, who was tempted on to the scaffold by his gaolers, acting under the Protector's direct and minute instructions?

Similar examples can be given of an occasional unfortunate obscurity in Dr. Gardiner's narrative, especially as regards the way in which the Protector was regarded by his subjects. The reappearance and re-enforcement on these pages of the notion that Cromwell's agents tricked and tempted the Royalists into the insurrection of March, 1655, may also be permitted, although, according to Dr. Gardiner, it has been effectually snuffed out by Mr. Firth, as evidence as yet unused in the contention, drawn from the pages of a well-known historical authority, can be cited in its support. REGINALD F. D. PALGRAVE.

#### SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE commenced the sale of the Barrois collection of manuscripts, the property of the Earl of Ashburnham, on Monday, the 10th inst. Very high prices were realized, of which we report the chief. Antiphonale of St. Germain des Prés, written by C. Mercier, a monk of the monastery, 1729, and finely illuminated, 1016. Le Livre du Comte d'Artois, fifteenth century, eighty-four miniatures, 455l. Sermones S. Augustini et quedam alia, sixth or seventh century, 315l. Historia S. Augustini, with drawings from which the early block-books were made, 655l. Boëthius cum Expositione Roberti (Grosseteste) Episcopi, fifteenth century, with illuminations, 540l. Boëthius en François, par Jehan de Meun, &c., illuminated, fifteenth century, 108l. Anglo-Norman and other Charters (1,179), A.D. 1269-1771, 305l. Chastellain, Misterieuse Fiction faite en Trois Personnages pour Pierre de Bresze, Prisonnier à Loches, fifteenth century, 138l. Comestor, La Bible Historiée, seventy miniatures, fourteenth century, 390l. Dante, Commedia, fourteenth century, from Lord Guilford's collection, 630l. Dialogus Creaturarum, with original paintings of subjects afterwards reproduced in wood in the early printed editions,

fifteenth century, 350l. Vie du Vaillant Bertrand du Guesclin, miniatures in camaieu gris, fourteenth century, 1,500l. Evangelistarium, eighth or ninth century, illuminated, with an ancient ivory plaque in the binding, 700l.; another, ninth century, with an ivory plaque in the binding, 320l. Evangelia Quatuor cum Prologis S. Hieronymi, ninth to tenth century, with an ancient ivory plaque in the binding, 490l. Évangiles en François, fifteenth century, with miniatures, 175l. Gaces de la Buignes, Roman des Deduis de la Chasse, fourteenth century, 102l. Gilles li Muisis, Abbé de S. Martin de Tournay, Œuvres Poétiques, fourteenth century, 660l. B. de Glanville, Propriétés des Choses, par Jehan Corbichon, fourteenth century, with miniatures, 295l. Le Livre du Gouvernement des Princes, 120 miniatures, fourteenth century, 685l.

Messrs. Hodgson included in their sale last week the following: Smith's Catalogue Raisonné, 5 vols., 42l. Dodsley's Annual Register, 143 vols., 25l. 10s. Naval Architects' Transactions, 43 vols., 22l. Boswell's Life of Johnson, first edition, 2 vols., 7l. 12s. 6d. Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield, first American edition, 2 vols., 8l. 7s. 6d. Tennyson's Mariana, 6 leaves, privately printed, 1863, 11l. 15s. Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, first edition, 8l. Rawsterne's Gamonia, 10l. 5s. Surtees's Sporting Novels, 5 vols., 10l. 15s. Combe's Dance of Death, &c., 3 vols., 9l. 15s. Cooper and Scott, Impressions from a Set of Silver Buttons, 5l. 10s. Walton and Cotton's Angler, by Nicolas, 2 vols., 6l. 2s. 6d.

#### Literary Gossip.

MR. FISHER UNWIN has in preparation for early publication in his "Story of the Nations" series a volume on 'Buddhist India,' by Prof. T. W. Rhys Davids, the secretary and librarian of the Royal Asiatic Society, and formerly Professor of Pali and Buddhist Literature at University College, London. His previous works are mostly concerned with Buddhism, the volumes on 'Buddhism,' 'Buddhist Birth Stories,' and 'Buddhist Suttas from the Pali' being among the most important. The present volume commences in the preface with the seventh century B.C., and treats, among other things, of the kings, the clans, social life, the village, the town, trade and commerce, manufactures and industries, literature and the fine arts, religion, political history, and religious history.

THE following degrees will be conferred at the forthcoming June Commencements of the University of Dublin: Sir Edward H. Carson and Mr. Hannis Taylor, late Minister of the United States to Spain, will be made LL.D.; Prof. Samuel Dill and Mr. A. J. Evans, D.Litt.; Prof. W. Burnside and Mr. W. E. Wilson, D.Sc.; and Mr. Francis J. E. Spring, M.A.I.

THE Cambridge University Press is preparing to publish school editions of the plays of Sophocles, abridged, under Sir Richard Jebb's supervision, from his larger editions.

WE are sorry to hear that Mr. Stillman's health is not so good as we thought. So far from driving out, his peregrinations are limited to walks (with assistance) between his bed and the invalid chair at the other end of his room.

THE King of the Belgians has conferred the cross of Officer of the Belgian Order of Leopold on Col. De Bas, Director of

Archives in the Dutch Department of War, for his vindication of the Belgian and Dutch troops at Quatre Bras and Waterloo contained in his work on the campaign of Prince Frederick of the Netherlands.

THOUGH the endowment of the London University may be said to "hang fire," it is not amiss to take note of the gradual accretion of small funds available for matriculated students. The trustees of the endowed charities of St. Dunstan have decided to offer three exhibitions of 60l. a year for three years to students (in need of assistance) who are placed highest in the honours division at matriculation.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Governors of Owens College, Manchester, was held last week, to consider what action that College should take with regard to the movement now in progress to disassociate University College, Liverpool, from the Victoria University, and to establish a separate university in that city. A resolution, which had already been agreed upon without opposition by Council and Senate, was unanimously adopted to the effect that, while offering no opposition to the effort to establish a university in Liverpool, the College considered it essential that in the event of the setting up of such a Liverpool university there should be established an independent university in Manchester not liable to be associated with any college outside that city. In other words, if the remarkable success of University College justified the movement for a Liverpool university, the much stronger position of Owens College required that it should similarly be made into a university for Manchester. This involves going back to the demand of Manchester over twenty years ago. The original petition of the Owens College, of which the Victoria charter was the result, was for the establishment of a local Manchester university. It was only in deference to the opposition of neighbouring cities that the College accepted the Victoria charter for a federal university with its seat in Manchester. In this connexion it may be added that 90,000l. has already been promised to Owens College in response to the jubilee appeal for at least 150,000l.

THE company responsible for the *Sphere* is going to bring out on Wednesdays an illustrated sixpenny journal of society and the stage entitled the *Tatler*, which Mr. Clement Shorter will edit. The first number will appear in about a month's time. Mr. Shorter has already made a success of the *Sphere*, and those who know his wonderful powers of work will not be surprised to see him score in another field.

MR. JAGGARD writes concerning his 'Index to Book-Prices Current':—

"The *Athenæum* is usually so exact that I feel tempted to point out a slight inaccuracy or two in your last issue. In the unexpected and kind note on my forthcoming 'Index' it records that 'varying prices and states are seen at one view.' To be veracious the sentence should run, 'references to varying prices,' &c. Again, extensive though the work is, there are not 'over 500,000 references' employed, but 'numerals'—a very different thing."

WE regret to hear that Mr. Charles Kent was not well enough to be present with the Boz Club last Saturday on the occasion of



their visit to Gadshill. Although better, he still suffers much from the effects of his accident.

THE Lord Mayor will be accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs on the occasion of the News-vendors' Dinner on the 25th inst. Among those who have promised to be present are General Sir Ian Hamilton, Sir John Leng, M.P., Mr. Gilbert Parker, M.P., Sir H. Burdett, and Mr. Cecil Harmsworth.

AN effort is being made to establish a Jewish university in New York, on the basis of the existing Hebrew Union College and Theological Seminary. Dr. Singer appeals to the Jewish public in America for the provision of the necessary funds. It is an interesting fact that English Jews are at the same moment considering the best mode of participating in the advantages of the University of London.

THE death is announced of the distinguished writer Count Puymaigre in his eighty-sixth year. The Count, who exercised no small influence on the intellectual life of Lorraine, wrote some original poetry, but he was pre-eminently a critic. His translations from Spanish and Portuguese possess considerable merit.

THE Bibliothèque Nationale is only keeping about 2,000 of the 30,000 pamphlets, &c., on the French Revolution which the Trustees of the British Museum handed over to the great French library some time ago. Those which have not been retained were already in the possession of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and have been placed in the keeping of the Bibliothèque Historique de la Ville de Paris at the Musée Carnavalet, of which M. Gérard is the librarian. This residue fills thirty large cases, and before this sudden influx of 28,000 items can be conveniently stored away a special money grant will have to be made.

THE eighth yearly general meeting of the Gesellschaft für deutsche Erziehungs- und Schulgeschichte was held last week in the Rathaus of Berlin. The President (Dr. Fischer) announced that an imperial subvention of 30,000 marks had been granted for the year 1901, and that an appeal had been made for increasing the grant next year to 50,000 marks. Prof. Fechner then reported upon the progress of the literary work of the society in each of its groups during the past twelve months, especially on the advance of the great 'Monumenta Germaniæ Pædagogica.' A first volume of the 'Schulordnungen' of Hesse will be ready in 1903. Schulrath Israel, of Dresden, is engaged upon a Pestalozzi bibliography. The first portion of a 'Geschichte des geographischen Unterrichts im Zeitalter des Humanismus und der Reformation,' by Prof. Votsch, of Magdeburg, will be ready this year. Prof. Krag-sala, of Dorpat, is engaged upon the collection of letters and writings by the German colleagues of Comenius. A first volume of a history of the education of the princes and princesses of the house of Hohenzollern is in the press, and the second volume will soon follow. A similar work upon the education of the princes in Weimar is in preparation, and also a history of the schools in Frankfurt-on-the-Main and a

history of the University of Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, by Prof. Bauch, of Breslau. The second volume of the great 'Bibliographie des gesammten Erziehungs- und Bildungswesens in den Ländern deutschen Zunge' has just appeared, and embraces the school literature of the year 1897.

THE Parliamentary Papers likely to be of the most interest to our readers this week are: Historical MSS. Commission, Report on the MSS. of Mrs. Frankland-Russell-Astley, of Chequers Court (2s.); Elementary Education, Return showing for each Public Elementary School in England and Wales the Number of Scholars, the Annual Grant, &c. (8s. 9d.); Statistical Tables relating to the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom for the Year 1897-8 (6s. 10d.); Education, Ireland, Annual Report for 1900 (5d.); Census, Ireland, Preliminary Report (2½d.); Statutes made by the Governing Bodies of Sidney Sussex College and Christ Church (½d. each); Report on the Endowed Charities of the French Protestant Church of London (3d.); and the Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records (1d.).

## SCIENCE

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL. — June 6. — *Annual Meeting.* — Sir W. Huggins, President, in the chair. — The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Prof. A. W. Alcock, Mr. F. W. Dyson, Mr. A. J. Evans, Prof. J. W. Gregory, Capt. H. B. Jackson, Mr. H. M. Macdonald, Mr. J. Mansergh, Prof. C. J. Martin, Major R. Ross, Prof. W. Schlich, Prof. A. Smithells, Mr. M. R. O. Thomas, Mr. W. Watson, Mr. W. C. D. Whetham, and Mr. A. S. Woodward. — The following papers were read: 'The Electric Response of Inorganic Substances, Preliminary Notice,' by Prof. J. C. Bose; 'Skin-currents: Part I. The Frog's Skin,' by Dr. Waller; 'Vibrations of Rifle Barrels,' by Mr. A. Mallock; 'The Measurement of Magnetic Hysteresis,' by Messrs. G. F. C. Searle and T. G. Bedford; 'A Conjugating "Yeast,"' by Mr. B. T. P. Barker; 'Thermal Adjustment and Respiratory Exchange in Monotremes and Marsupials: a Study in the Development of Homo-thermism,' by Prof. J. C. Martin; 'The Elastic Equilibrium of Circular Cylinders under Certain Practical Systems of Load,' by Mr. L. N. G. Filon; 'The Measurement of Ionic Velocities in Aqueous Solution, and the Existence of Complex Ions,' by Mr. B. D. Steele; — and 'The Spectrum of  $\eta$  Argus,' by Sir D. Gill.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. — June 5. — Mr. Blashill, V.P., in the chair. — Mr. E. W. Fry sent photographs of the Romano-British pottery recently discovered at Walmer, and a plan of the site with some interesting notes. — Among the exhibits were two antique candlesticks of iron of peculiar construction, probably of Dutch origin, shown by Dr. Winstone, who also exhibited some leaf-shaped and some barbed arrow-heads with modern mounts. — Dr. W. de Gray Birch read a paper on 'Some Aspects of the Life and Times of King Alfred the Great,' in which he pointed out that the celebration of the millenary of Alfred would have been one of the more prominent events of the year had it not been for other imperial causes which had acted adversely in this respect. As it was, however, London, by a special exhibition in the British Museum, and Winchester, by a special congress, were preparing to honour Alfred's name and fame, and thus the two cities with which Alfred was very closely connected would be doing something to remind us of his time. Dr. Birch recapitulated at some length the familiar story of the king's life, brushing away many apocryphal stories that have grown up round the hero, and devoted considerable time to a critical exposition of the archaeology of the "Alfred Jewel" and other cognate relics of the art of the Anglo-Saxon goldsmiths and enamellers, and to a description of the numerous literary works with which Alfred occupied himself. The paper showed that a standard edition of the *opera omnia* of Alfred, embracing all that the king wrote and all that the ancients had written of him, would be a far more fitting memorial of this

millenary than a fanciful statue of doubtful portraiture, or a building set up in all the gilded glory of twentieth-century architecture.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. — June 5. — Sir H. H. Howorth, President, in the chair. — Prof. Boyd Dawkins gave an account of the exploration of the cairn at Gop, near Prestatyn, on the east side of the Vale of Clwyd, and of the cave discovered close by. The cairn, called locally the tomb of Queen Boadicea, consisted of a pile of blocks of limestone 330 ft. long, 223 ft. wide, 446 ft. high. A shaft was sunk in the centre to the level of the solid rock, and from this three driftways were carried along the line of the rock to a distance of 30 ft., with but negative results, the only remains met with being a few bones of sheep or goat, hog, and ox or horse, of the usual prehistoric refuse-heap type. The stones were too loose to allow the exploration to be carried on further without timbering, and it was found impossible to explore the heap satisfactorily without removing the whole of the stones. The cairn probably marks the position of the sepulchral cave which was discovered below at a distance of 141 ft. The site of this cave was marked by a fox earth which completely covered the entrance. On cutting into it the broad opening of the cave was revealed, filled with three distinct deposits. On the rocky floor of the interior of the cave was a stiff yellow clay, from 1 ft. to 2 ft. thick, belonging to the Glacial Period, and without any fossil remains. Above this was a layer of grey clay 2 ft. thick, containing the remains of the cave hyæna, bison, stag, reindeer, roe deer, horse, and woolly rhinoceros. Above this, and extending to the roof of the cavern, was a prehistoric accumulation, containing bones of the domestic animals used for food by man, about 6 ft. thick, proved by the associated pottery to belong to the Bronze Age. It was largely a refuse heap, accumulated during the time it was occupied by man. As this was worked away towards the inside a large number of bones were met with underneath slabs of stone, and when these were removed a wall became visible, built of rubble stone, about 4 ft. high and 4 ft. long. This proved to be one of three walls of a sepulchral chamber, the fourth being formed by the inner wall of the cave. Inside were the remains of upwards of thirteen skeletons, of various ages, which had been buried, in successive times, in a contracted posture. Associated with them were fragments of pottery of the Bronze Age, two links of jet or Kimmeridge coal, and a carefully ground flint flake, looking almost like the blade of an ivory paper knife. Examination of the skulls proved that the predominant type was that of the long oval-headed inhabitants of the district in the Neolithic Age, while two were round heads belonging to the later Goidelic conquerors of Britain in the Bronze Age. One of these was a female skull. This association of the two races in one family vault affords clear proof that at this time the fusion of peoples had begun which has been going on ever since, a fusion in the course of which the Iberic tongue gradually became obliterated. In later times the arrival of the Brythonic peoples caused, in its turn, Gaelic to give way to the Welsh tongue, and to be represented mainly by isolated names of places and rivers. Prof. Dawkins thought it very probable that the cairn was made to mark the site of the family sepulchre. — Mr. E. W. Brabrook read a paper on 'Mediæval Lavatories,' illustrating his subject with a drawing of the twelfth-century example at Christ Church, Canterbury. He gave a list of remaining examples, chiefly monastic, divided into two classes: those with circular or octagonal plan, and those with rectangular plan. Of these the first class contained all the earlier examples. Referring to the lavatories at Canterbury and at Mellifont, visited in 1900 by the Institute, he noted the persistency of the opinion held by a former generation of antiquaries that these buildings were baptistries. At Canterbury the authorities went so far as to place a font in the upper chamber there, by way of restoring the building to its original use! The description of the great lavatory at Durham, from the 'Rites of Durham,' gave an excellent idea of the magnificence of these structures in the larger monastic houses. Of the second class, with rectangular plan, a very fine specimen existed at Gloucester in the north walk of the cloister, complete except for the lead linings of the water-trough. This form was the usual one for domestic lavatories, which were sometimes very large, as in the case of one of which it is recorded that a hundred knights and ladies could wash there at the same time.

ZOOLOGICAL. — June 4. — Dr. W. T. Blanford, V.P., in the chair. — A communication by Dr. R. Broom, on 'The Structure and Affinities of the Anomodont Genus *Udenodon*,' contained an account of a number of specimens from the Lower Karoo beds of Pearson, South Africa, which the author referred to the

dicynodont genus *Udenodon* (Oudenodon). One of these, a small skull, was shortly described as the type of a new species (*U. gracilis*). A second specimen, which included a large part of a skeleton, but with a very imperfect skull, was believed to belong to the same species, and was likewise briefly noticed. The author also described the structure of the skeleton of *Udenodon* as deduced from his own specimens, the particulars of the skull being taken from several specimens, while the account of the rest of the skeleton was largely based upon the one small specimen above alluded to. In considering the affinities of *Udenodon* the author supported the opinion hitherto held that it was only a slightly modified *Dicynodon*, in which the teeth had failed to be developed. The bones of *Udenodon* and *Dicynodon*, taken together, were said to show marked affinities with the theriodonts and the mammals, and less marked affinities with the primitive forms (Pareiasaurus, rhynchocephalians, plesiosaurs, and chelonians), but only remote affinities with the higher reptiles.—A communication was read from Mr. Oldfield Thomas, giving the history of the specimen of *Rhinoceros lasiotis*, Selator, which had lived for thirty-two years in the Society's gardens, and stating that he was of opinion that it was not deserving of specific rank, but should be considered rather as a subspecies of *R. sumatrensis*. The generic nomenclature of the rhinoceros was also examined, and it was proposed that the existing species of this family should be divided into three generic divisions—*Rhinoceros* (to include *R. unicornis* and *R. sondaicus*), *Dicerorhinus* (to include *R. sumatrensis* and *R. lasiotis*), and *Diceros* (to include *R. sinus* and *R. bicornis*). It was shown that, if it were found necessary to divide the species *R. sinus* and *R. bicornis*, the former, with its fossil allies, should bear the name *Cœlodonta*.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger read a paper on a small collection of fishes from the Victoria Nyanza which had been made by the order of Sir H. H. Johnston. Six species were enumerated and remarked upon, two (*Labeo victorianus* and *Discoognathus johnstoni*) being described as new.—Mr. F. E. Beddard described six new species of earthworms of the genus *Benhamia* from tropical Africa.—Some notes were read from Mr. J. G. Millais on the capture of a specimen of Bechstein's bat (*Vesperugo bechsteini*) in the neighbourhood of Henley-on-Thames. So far as was known, this was only the second occurrence of this species recorded in Great Britain.—Mr. H. R. Hogg read a paper on the Australian and New Zealandian spiders of the suborder Mygalomorphæ. The author adopted the nomenclature of M. Simon, and stated that of the seven subfamilies of this suborder into which M. Simon had divided it, six were represented in Australia and New Zealand, the only absentee being the Paratropidinae of South America.

**CHEMICAL.**—June 6.—Prof. Thorpe, V.P., in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'A Laboratory Method for the Preparation of Ethylene,' by Mr. G. S. Newth, 'Oxoxylins,' by Messrs. W. A. H. Naylor and C. S. Dyer, 'Some Relations between Physical Constants and Constitution in Benzenoid Amines: II,' by Messrs. P. Gordon and L. Limpach, 'The Constitution of the Acids obtained from α-Dibromocamphor,' by Messrs. A. Lapworth and W. H. Lenton, 'The Decomposition of Chlorates: IV. The Supposed Mechanical Facilitation of the Decomposition of Potassium Chlorate,' by Mr. W. H. Sodeau, 'Condensation of Phenols with Esters of the Acetylene Series: V. Homologues of Benzopyrone,' by Mr. S. Ruhemann, 'On the Action of Sodium Methoxide and its Homologues on Benzophenone Chloride and Benzal Chloride,' by Mr. J. E. Mackenzie, 'Preliminary Note on Hydrides of Boron,' by Messrs. W. Ramsay and H. S. Hatfield, 'Gum Tragacanth,' by Mr. C. O'Sullivan, 'Optically Active Dimethoxysuccinic Acid and its Derivatives,' by Messrs. T. Purdie and J. C. Irvine, 'The Influence of Solvents on the Rotatory Powers of Etheral Dimethoxysuccinates and Tartrates,' by Messrs. T. Purdie and W. Barbour, and 'Note on a Kerosine Oil Blowpipe,' by Mr. A. Richardson.

**PHILOLOGICAL.**—June 7.—Rev. Prof. Skeat, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. J. A. H. Murray made a report on the progress of the 'Oxford English Dictionary.' J is now all printed, and, with part of K, is on its way to America, and will be published here on July 1st. About three-fourths of K have been sent to the Clarendon Press, and vol. v. (I, J, K) will be completed by October 1st. Mr. Bradley has begun vol. vi. (L, M, N); Dr. Murray's assistants have begun work at O for vol. vii.; and the third editor, Mr. Craigie, has sent to press the beginning of Q. Dr. Fitzedward Hall's death has been a great loss to the 'Dictionary,' but his lists of words have been handed over, and his son will lend the books to which these refer to readers for the 'Dictionary.' Each reader will be furnished with slips on which

the date and title of the book sent him are printed, so that he will have only to look out each word in the list and copy a short passage for it. Other helpers who have died are Dr. Hulme and Mr. Anderson. Twenty sub-editors have died, and all the staff who were on the 'Dictionary' before its move to Oxford. Mr. Brandreth, Miss Brown, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Robertson-Wilson, and others are still at work. Mr. Wm. Payne, of Cuckfield, has sent 20,000 quotations, mostly before 1600. Miss Poynter has read at the Bodleian, sorted slips, and helped generally. Dr. Furnival has sent many bundles of quotations. Both J and K, though the shortest couple of letters, were very difficult. They are supplementary to G and C, and the references to these took up much time. The initial article of J, now in print, gives much information on the history of the letter, which was only a form of the final i, 'filij.' The letters i and j were first differentiated in printed Spanish small letters, as in Minshew, 1597. In England Richard Day and Geo. Bishop printed i and j in small type in the sixteenth century. In Cotgrave's famous French dictionary, 1611, the roman type has j, the italic has not. After 1625 j gradually came in. The sound of initial j did not exist in Old English; at the end of words it came in in the eleventh century. From the sixteenth century j words were introduced—jack, jerry, just, &c., all plebeian words of unknown origin. But our oldest j words are from Old French in the eleventh century—juggler, justice. Native j words are later—j-b, jig, jilt, job, jug, junk (old rope), &c.—and mainly onomatopoeic. Many j names have become common words, like jockey, jumbo, &c. 'John Company' is from the Dutch East India Company, not the English. *Joss* is Portuguese *deos*, Javanese *deyos*. *Judea* and *jus* have many derivatives, of which Dr. Murray gave the history of *judge* and *justice*. Though the Romans had dropped k, and English did not have it originally, yet Christianity introduced it through its 'Kyrie eleison.' In Old English c was used for k except in *Kent*, *kin*, and *kyning* occasionally; but after the Norman Conquest k came in before e, i, u. Under ka Dr. Johnson has seven words, some of which are also spelt with c. The 'Oxford Dictionary' ka words take twenty-one columns. Dr. Murray dealt with several k words, and was warmly thanked for his services to the 'Dictionary.'

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Tues. College of Physicians, 5.—'The Chemical Side of Nervous Activity,' Lecture III, Dr. Halliburton. (Croonian Lectures.)
- Statistical, 5.—Annual Meeting.
- Zoological, 8j.—'Observations on some Mimetic Insects and Spiders from Borneo and Singapore,' Mr. R. Sherriff; 'Further Researches upon the Molluscs of the Great African Lakes,' Mr. J. E. S. Moore; 'The Collections of Birds made by Dr. Donaldson Smith in Northern Somaliland,' Dr. R. B. Sharpe.
- Wed. Meteorological, 4j.—'The Eclipse Cyclone, the Diurnal Cyclones, and the Cyclones and Anticyclones of Temperate Latitudes,' Mr. H. H. Clayton; 'The Seismograph as a Sensitive Barometer,' Mr. F. N. Denison.
- Geological, 8.—'Intrusive Tuff-like Igneous Rocks and Recreates in Ireland,' Messrs. J. R. Kilroe and A. McHenry; 'The Use of a Geological Datum,' Mr. Beaby Thompson.
- Microscopical, 8.—'An Examination of the Abbe Diffraction Theory of the Microscope,' Mr. J. W. Gordon.
- Anthropological Institute, 8j.—'The Spirit of Vegetation,' Mr. Tregear; 'Japanese Gohel,' Mr. Aston.
- Thurs. Royal, 4j.—
- College of Physicians, 5.—'The Chemical Side of Nervous Activity,' Lecture IV, Dr. Halliburton. (Croonian Lectures.)
- Chemical, 8. Ballot for Fellows: 'The Direct Union of Carbon and Hydrogen,' Part II, and 'The Decomposition of Hydrocarbons at High Temperatures,' Messrs. W. A. Bone and H. D. S. Jordan; 'Ammonium and other imideophosphates,' Messrs. E. Divers and M. Ogden; 'Nitrogenous Compounds,' Messrs. E. Divers and T. Hags; 'The Sugars from Cellulose,' Mr. H. J. Fenton; and five other papers.
- Linnean, 8.—'The Freshwater Algae of Ceylon,' Messrs. W. and G. S. West; 'Coprophilous Fungi,' Messrs. G. Massee and E. Salmon; 'Revision of the Genus *Hypericophyllum*, Steetz,' Mr. N. E. Brown.
- Society of Antiquaries, 8j.—'The Recent Discovery of an Alleged Law of Numa,' Prof. E. C. Clark.

#### Science Gossip.

THE death of Mr. William Walton removes a notable old Cambridge tutor who had long outlived his contemporaries. He graduated in 1836 at Trinity, and speedily gained a reputation as a mathematical coach and tutor, especially at Magdalene and Trinity Hall. Among his pupils was the present Master of the latter foundation. He published a 'Treatise on the Differential Calculus' in 1845, and from 1848 to 1858 various collections of problems in geometry, hydrostatics, hydrodynamics, and mechanics.

IN answer to the appeal for funds to commemorate the late Mr. G. J. Symons, the well-known meteorologist, over 700l. has been subscribed. This will be devoted to the issue of a gold medal, which will be awarded biennially for distinguished work in meteorological science, irrespective of sex or nationality.

GEOLOGISTS have been sadly shocked by the news of the murder of Prof. G. Bleicher, of Nancy, whose work had done much to elucidate the structure of the Vosges. In early life Dr. Bleicher had served in the French African army, but more than twenty years ago he settled in Nancy as Professor of Natural History in the École Supérieure de Pharmacie. At the time of his death he was also director of this school. Prof. Bleicher was the author of numerous memoirs on the geology and prehistoric archaeology of Alsace and Lorraine.

WHAT must take its place in the first class of misprints has lately appeared in a collection of papers printed by a Surrey press. The author is described as "Fellow of the Epidemiological Institute of Chemistry; Pathological Hunterian Society." Four separate bodies were surely never so mixed before!

THE Report of the Army Medical Department has just been issued as a Parliamentary Paper, at the price of 2s. 1d.

#### FINE ARTS

*The Early Age of Greece.* By William Ridgeway, Disney Professor of Archaeology in the University of Cambridge. Vol. I. (Cambridge, University Press.)

PROF. RIDGEWAY has already earned his spurs as a scholar of originality and learning, and one who carries out the motto prefixed to this book: *ὅτι δὲ ὁ λόγος ὡς περ πνεῦμα φέρη, ταύτη ἱέρων*. His book on 'The Origin of Metallic Currency' ran counter to the dearest theories of the "symbolic" school of numismatists; but the most conservative of them have been forced to admit that there is much truth in it, and his views are certainly becoming more widely accepted. The present work is in some respects even more bold, attempting as it does not merely to overthrow the latest theories on the Homeric question, but also to resuscitate the Pelasgi and assign to them the credit of the Cyclopean works of Mycenæ, the exquisite gold work of Vaphio, and last, but not least, the Homeric poems themselves, with "the noblest measure ever moulded by the lips of man." Merely to believe in the Pelasgians was thought not so long since the mark of a madman. Prof. Ridgeway has indeed the courage of his convictions.

To prove his case he first collects and sifts the facts known about the civilization called Mycæan. Taking each centre in turn, he shows that the same main characteristics are seen in each, that they spread over the mainland of Greece, the Ægean islands, Italy, and parts of Africa and Asia Minor, and that, whilst the remains are sporadic or of late introduction in the outlying parts, the most important, which belong to the flower of the Mycæan culture, are found in the Ægean area. Legends are then brought in evidence to prove that the Peloponnese was the centre of influence. He infers that the remains, which are everywhere so much alike, were the work of one race, and that that race developed its culture on the south of the Greek peninsula. Next comes the question, What was this race? and the rival claims of Phœnicians and others having been considered and dismissed, he examines the legends current in Greece about the prehistoric population, and decides that the Pelasgi



were the authors of the Mycenaean culture. A discussion of the Homeric age leads to the conclusion that the heroes of the Iliad were Achæan conquerors who had entered into the inheritance of their predecessors. The Homeric armour, round shield with a boss, iron lance or sword, helmet, greaves, and cuirass, is at variance with the Mycenaean, which consisted (as the tombs and legends prove) of oblong shield made of hide, bow or short sword, without helmet or body armour. Here he falls foul of Reichel, and has no difficulty in demolishing the arguments by which he attempted to identify Homer's men with the Mycenaean. An examination of the Central European finds at Hallstatt and elsewhere, where armour identical with the Homeric has been found, suggests that the Achæans came from that quarter. Ethnology again comes to his aid, and he gives reason for thinking that the Pelasgi were a small dark race, while their Achæan conquerors, as indeed Homer says, were tall and fair-headed. The latter he identifies with the Celts. Burial customs are also found to agree in Hallstatt and in Homer, and to differ in Mycenæ. Finally, the Homeric dialect is examined, and its peculiarities explained in a most ingenious fashion as due to the Pelasgic dialect, which, from a comparison of Arcadian and Cyprian, appears to have been a variety of Æolic.

It is impossible here to do more than indicate the main lines of this argument; but we frankly confess that it has made a strong impression on us. No doubt Mr. Ridgeway may have here and there gone a little too far in identifying various dark-haired tribes as one, and so with the fair tribes; and some of the argument is not very clearly stated—that, for instance, about the types of safety-pin brooch, which cannot be tested without fuller illustration. Perhaps he has not sufficiently explained the Zeus of Dodona, whom Homer calls Pelasgic and Mr. Ridgeway Achæan, and more is reserved for the second volume. The effects of climate upon physique may be as great as is here assumed, but the case can hardly be said to be proved. But with the main argument we are fully in accord. The finds, both in Greece and elsewhere, on which it is largely based, appear, so far as we can test the matter, to be accurately stated, and no material evidence seems to have been ignored. Mr. Ridgeway does not forget, for example, the warrior vase of Mycenæ, with its helmets and round shields, but points out, quite truly, that it was found in the lower city amidst remains of the end of the Mycenaean age, when, according to his theory, the Achæans were already dominant. In this part we can hardly believe that his position will be seriously questioned. We think the legends are most likely to be the battleground with his opponents. Although the tendency of every discovery during the last generation has been to rehabilitate the Greek legends of early times, yet the contempt for them dies hard, as appears clearly enough in the scant courtesy shown to early Roman history. But they have never been critically examined before in the light of archaeological discoveries, nor has any one so successfully illustrated them by the way in which historical heroes, like Alexander or Charlemagne, are treated in

saga and song; and when so examined, their consistency with themselves and with the finds is indeed remarkable. It is no small confirmation of their value that by following them Mr. Ridgeway has been enabled to explain better than any of his predecessors the origin of the Homeric poems. As was long ago pointed out, these poems are not the rude ballads of a young race, but the last bloom of a declining civilization; and Mr. Ridgeway suggests that the Achæans, who obtained the strong places of Southern Greece not by conquest, but by marriage, may well have availed themselves of the hereditary bard of the old kingly house to sing their own praises, just as the English nobles did in Ireland.

Language is another problem on which new light is thrown by the present essay; and here again the known facts of more modern history are employed. The labialism in certain Greek dialects has long been a vexed problem, and it is suggested that, while the conquerors adopted the speech of the conquered race, they impressed some modifications upon it, as the Normans did upon English. Amongst these would be labialism, which was a mark of Celtic. Thus the Athenians discarded *ikkos* for *ippos*, while the older form (though Mr. Ridgeway does not mention it) survives in the northern name Perdiccas. Then, again, scholars have never explained why the Athenians should have used Doric for the choral parts of their plays. Mr. Ridgeway suggests that this was really the old Attic—in fact, the Pelasgian of the common people—preserved in religious hymns, which would naturally be conservative. The "Doric" of tragedy has, in fact, little in common with the Doric dialects, except that *α* is retained for *η*. We may perhaps add a further item of confirmation in the colloquial use of *ει* with the subjunctive, so common in Aristophanes, who faithfully reflects the popular idiom, this point being also noteworthy in the Homeric poems. By Mr. Ridgeway's theory both would come from a common source.

A number of smaller points which are explained by the new theory can only be alluded to. We now see reason for the three classes in Sparta, nobles, *periœci*, and helots, in the three races, Dorian, Achæan, and Pelasgian; for similar facts in Crete, Thessaly, and South Italy, and for the absence of them in Attica. We see a plausible reason for the recognition scene in the 'Choëphoræ,' if the hair of the nobles were light, of the folk dark; and perhaps for the footprint, if there were a marked difference in stature between the two. We see why the Homeric names are so hard to explain etymologically, and the great Athenian and island names so easy. And, not least, light is thrown on the dark places of Greek religion, which we hope to see more fully illuminated in the concluding volume. We may say, however, that an investigation on wholly different lines has led us to the conclusion which Mr. Ridgeway appears to have reached, that the common people in most parts of Greece had a worship of the dead quite distinct from that of the great gods who afterwards largely absorbed the functions and privileges of their predecessors.

It may be worth mentioning, in reviewing a book of this sort, that some of the references are wrong. That on p. 153, note, should be "Plutarch, Vit. X. Or. 843 ε"; on p. 205, note 5, read "Paus. viii. 5, 3."

## NOTES FROM ROME.

On the 12th of last March some rather interesting traces of the old gardens of Sallust were discovered at the corner of the Via Lucullo and the Via Sallustiana, where the Sisters of St. Joseph are building a new wing of their convent. At the depth of 38 feet, and at 60 feet from the junction of the two streets just named, a headless statue was lying, exquisitely carved in Greek marble of fine texture and rich tone. It represents a young woman wearing the Doric woollen peplum, sewn on the right side up to the height of the shoulders, with the apotygmata—namely, with the top of the peplum folded over all round. This fold, which descends generally to the level of the hips, was known to archaeologists as the *δισπλοῖδιον*, but its real name was *ἀπόπτυγμα*. The figure belongs to a Peloponnesian type, produced, it seems, at the beginning of the fifth century B.C., of which several specimens have already been found, collected, and described by Amelung and Mariani (*Bull. Com.*, 1897, p. 169; *Römisches Mittheil.*, 1900, p. 181), the best preserved of the whole set being the one discovered at Castelli, the ancient *κισάριος* in the island of Crete, and now preserved in the museum of the Syllogos of Candia. The new replica, which measures five feet in height without the plinth, was found lying among the remains of one of the edifices of the Sallustian gardens—built partly in the reticulated style, partly in "opus quadratum"—together with other fragments of statuary, several amphoræ, and two whole columns, one of african, fluted, one of cipollino, plain. The edifices must have bordered on the little river Petronia, the underground course of which can still be followed from its springs in the Piazza Sallustiana down the Via di S. Nicolo da Tolentino, the Piazza Barberini, and the Via del Tritone, to the Piazza Colonna, where its traces are lost.

In the Via dell' Araceli, opposite the Palazzo Astalli, a fragment of a stone pedestal has come to light, on which the words COSOLE.....ONE CAPTOM can still be traced. It is very little, but enough to allow us to classify this fragment with a special set of records which commemorate the capture of Greek or Sicilian cities in the third century B.C. and the removal of their most celebrated works of art to Rome. Such are the pedestal of M. Fulvius Nobilior, discovered in 1867 near the temple of Hercules Musarum, upon which had been placed the statue of one of the muses captured by that victorious leader at Ambracia, A.U. 567; that of M. Claudius Marcellus, found near S. Pietro in Vinculis, which supported another splendid work of art removed from Henna in 543, &c. The name of the conquered city cannot be made out in the newly found fragment; we only know that it ended with the letters .....ONE.

Outside the Porta S. Paolo, near the city walls, a stone altar has come to light, with a bas-relief representing a four-wheeled cart drawn at high speed by two mules stimulated by the cracking of the whip of their driver. The inscription states that the altar was offered *ex voto* by a muleteer named Severus to Epona, the goddess of stables, grooms, and pack animals, whose intervention had saved the grateful man from an accident not specified. A little further on, on the road to Ostia, several tombs have been excavated dating from the middle of the second century, and belonging to the gens Claudia (Ti. Claudius Theophilus, Ti. Claudius Hilarus, Claudia Charis, &c.).

The Carmelites are building the hundred and

thirty-first monastery erected in Rome under Italian rule, viz., since the year 1870. It occupies a large tract of ground right outside the Aurelian walls, in the triangle formed by the Corso d'Italia, the Via Salaria Vetus or Pinciana, and the Via Salaria Nova. This triangle has become the terror of epigraphists, on account of the vast number of totally uninteresting epitaphs which it contains. Over eight hundred have been put aside since the construction of this Carmelite convent began two or three years ago. Among the forty-seven discovered in these last days in the foundations of the chapel there is one describing how a "collegium" had been formed among the freedmen and servants of L. Tarius Rufus, under the presidency of a certain Agrypnus, who was physician to Quinta, wife of Tarius; how the doctor had died at twenty-seven, and how his "mater calamitosa" (anew and charming expression of sorrow) had put up at her expense the funeral tablet. A second tablet belongs to a banker from Reate named C. Flaminius Atticus; a third to an imperial freedman who was a "cælator" by trade, viz., an engraver, a chiseller, or worker *en repoussé* of gold and silver plate. It seems that artists of this kind were always included in the list of the imperial household, like the "Amiantus Germanici Caesaris cælator" mentioned in No. 4328 of the 'Corpus Inscr. Latin.' Pliny speaks of a Clodius who had attained such perfection and fame in the art of chiselling precious cups that they were named from him "vasa clodiana"; and No. 9222 of the 'Corpus' sings the praises of a M. Canuleius Zosimus who had outdistanced all his contemporaries in the "cælatura clodiana," and although he had had the control of large quantities of precious metal ("multum ponderis auri et argenti"), he had died with clean hands ("concupiit ex eo nihil unquam").

A fourth tombstone belongs to a young man of twenty-three, named Grattius, who had been kicked and beaten to death ("indigne subiectus morte nefanda, occisus calce et manibus") by a ruffian, to whom the victim wishes an even worse fate ("hoc opto! moriari malis exemplis cruciatus").

Parliament has sanctioned almost unanimously the purchase of the Ludovisi museum of statuary, which has thus become the property of the nation. It will be exhibited, very likely, in the casino of the Villa Borghese, together with the Borghese marbles. I have just heard of another excellent scheme. The State is contemplating the purchase of the Farnese Palace, with the view of arranging in its spacious halls the National Gallery of Pictures, for which, after the latest additions, there is no more room in the overcrowded Corsini Palace.

The collection of Papal coins formed by the late Cardinal Randi has been purchased by Pope Leo XIII. and added to the Vatican "Medagliere." It numbers about 6,000 pieces, including many rare and some unique specimens, mostly collected in 1862, when the Government of Pius IX. introduced the French monetary system into the States of the Church. At that time silver or gold coins dating from the sixteenth or seventeenth century were still in circulation, including scudi, testoni (30 baiocchi), papetti (20 baiocchi), giulii (10), grossi (5), and mezzi grossi (2½). It was not a rare occurrence by any means to receive in exchange for a gold doppia or sequin silver pieces dating from the time of Paul III., Clement VIII., or Urban VIII. I still keep in my own collection a few rare specimens which came into my hands in this way. When the French monetary system was adopted in 1862, and the Papal currency retired from circulation, Cardinal Randi was allowed to pick up whatever pieces would suit his purpose by simply refunding to the Treasury their face value in silver or gold. And thus the finest and rarest pro-

ductions of the Cinquecento medalists were bought by Randi by the pound!

The archaeological exploration of the islands of Giglio (Igillum) and Giannutri (Dianium) in the Tuscan Sea has just been completed by Prof. Pellegrini, of the Florence Museum. The island of Giglio belonged to the Ahenobarbi branch of the Domitian family from the time of the Republic, as we are told by Caesar ('De Bell. Civ.' i. 34). Here they built a villa or a shooting lodge on the hill now called Del Castellare, behind the tower of Giglio Marina, and here several brick stamps have lately been found, inscribed with the name of the celebrated Domitian kilns. These kilns occupied a large district at the foot of the Vatican Hill and on the plain which we call the Prati di Castello (the old Domitian gardens), and became Crown property through the two Domitiae Lucillæ, senior and junior, marrying into the imperial family. There is no doubt, therefore, that the villa of Castellare was built with materials specially shipped from the Tiber.

Far more important are the remains described by Pellegrini on the west coast of Giannutri, in the inner recess of the Cala Maestra, at the foot of the Poggio del Cannone, which rises 255 feet above the level of the sea. The remains, which have a sea frontage of 900 feet, had been identified by former explorers with a temple of Diana, for no other reason than that suggested by the name of the island, called 'Aprequia' by the Greeks and Dianium by the Romans. They include a reservoir for rain-water, living rooms, store-rooms, baths, habitations for servants and slaves, and a round belvedere in the highest portion of the grounds, to which the five granite columns and the corresponding marble capitals lying in that neighbourhood seem to belong. All these antique structures have lately been explored by the brothers Oswald and Walter Adami, of Leghorn, who have undertaken the colonization and cultivation of the half-deserted island, and who have lodged themselves and their staff of servants and workmen in the very rooms of the palace raised and inhabited by the Domitii Ahenobarbi twenty centuries before.

Following in the footsteps of King Victor and Pope Leo XIII., the municipality of Rome has just started its own collection of coins in a room of the Palazzo de' Conservatori, next to the Gallery of Bronzes. The task of sorting, arranging, and exhibiting scientifically this remarkable collection has been entrusted to the well-known numismatist Camillo Serafini, who is also the keeper of the Vatican "Medagliere." It contains, among other items, the Campana collection of Roman gold coins, which the city rescued from the Mont de Piété in 1872; the Bignani collection, bought in 1889; the Stanzani collection, formed by that distinguished architect while residing in Russia; and lastly, the gold, silver, and bronze coins collected since 1870 from municipal excavations.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

#### SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 4th inst. the following engravings. After J. Hoppner: The Duchess of Bedford, by S. W. Reynolds, 43l.; Mrs. Whitbread, by the same, 31l.; The Sisters (The Frankland Children), by W. Ward, 109l.; Psyche, by H. Meyer, 39l. After Sir J. Reynolds: A Bacchante (Lady Hamilton), by J. R. Smith, 43l.; another example, 325l.; Mrs. Braddyll, by S. Cousins, 57l.; Lady Caroline Montagu as Winter, by J. R. Smith, 96l.; The Duchess of Devonshire, by V. Green, 65l.; Mrs. Bunbury, by J. Watson, 92l. After G. Romney: The Duchess of Marlborough, by J. Jones, 67l.; Emma (Lady Hamilton), by the same, 241l.; Hon. Mrs. Beresford, by the same, 53l. After Sir T. Lawrence: Countess Grosvenor, by S. Cousins, 29l.; Master Lambton, by the same, 57l. After

J. Ward: Selling Rabbits, and The Citizens' Retreat, by W. Ward, 25l. After G. Morland: St. James's Park, and A Tea-Garden, by F. D. Soiron, 141l.; Fox-hunting, by E. Bell (set of four), 37l.; The Deserter, by G. Keating (set of four), 93l. After W. Bigg: Dulce Domum, and Black Monday, by J. Jones, 33l.; The Soldier's Widow, and The Sailor's Orphans, by Dunkarton, 35l. By W. Ward: Louisa Mildmay, 49l.

The same firm sold on the 8th inst. the following works. Drawings: V. Cole, The Harvest-Field, 50l. W. A. Nesfield, Glen Rosie, Isle of Arran, 54l. R. T. Waite, Lewes Mill, 126l. J. Downman, Lady Hildyard, 99l.; Miss Saltren, 99l. F. Foster, Waiting for the Ferry, 78l.; Crossing the Ford, 346l. F. Goodall, Felice Ballarini reciting Tasso to the Fishermen of Chioggia, 50l. A. W. Hunt, A Woodland Glade, 84l. T. S. Cooper, Tonford Manor, Kent, 199l. P. de Wint, A Coast Scene, Minehead, 199l.; Kenilworth Castle, 173l. Pictures: T. S. Cooper, The End of November, 1872, 262l. W. P. Frith, Mr. Honeywood introducing the Bailiffs to Miss Richland as his Friends, 194l. G. Vincent, A Woody River Scene, 136l. H. Dawson, The Cornfield, 136l. W. Müller, The Acropolis, Athens, 420l. W. Etty, Aurora and Zephyr, 210l. E. W. Cooke, French Herring Boats running into the Port of Havre-de-Grâce, 210l. J. F. Herring, sen., Boroughbridge Horse Fair, 173l. J. N. Sartorius, The Death of the Fox, 105l.

#### Five-Art Gossipy.

THE Pastel Society are holding the private view to-day of their exhibition in the Royal Institute Galleries.

In consequence of the success of Messrs. Colnaghi's exhibition in aid of the Princess of Wales's Appeal Fund, Sir Seymour Haden has consented to forego the opening of their second show of his own work for a fortnight, so that it will begin on the 29th.

MESSRS. FOSTER sold, for comparatively small sums, on Wednesday last, the 12th inst., three of the frescoes, by Mr. Watts, that were detached from the walls of the original Little Holland House, Kensington, by peeling them off on linen, just before that once well-known building was pulled down. The subjects represented were 'From Spenser's "Faerie Queene," "Dante," and "Dante and Virgil." Other frescoes by the same hands, which were detached from the same building, are still existing in private possession.

THE death is announced of the eldest son of the late C. R. Leslie, R.A., Mr. R. C. Leslie, who was well known as a painter of sea-subjects. Latterly he took to writing, and produced 'A Marine Painter's Log' and a 'Waterbiography.'

MR. WATTS is now, and for some weeks past has been, at Limner's Lease, and engaged in completing his full-length, life-size portrait of Tennyson. This is not that portrait of the Laureate which the R.A. proposed some time ago, representing his friend as he once saw him, walking near Farringford in sunlight with a peacock on each side of him.

MRS. HOEY is quite right about Herbert's picture mentioned last week, and we are sorry to have been misled by the fact that his name disappears from the list of Academicians in 1887. He contributed the work in question to the Academy when he had retired in 1889, and it was called 'A Voice from the Deep.'

MR. ORCHARDSON has just been elected a foreign Associate of the Académie des Beaux-Arts. His work is well known in France, where he obtained a medal as far back as 1867.

THE talented landscape painter Hans Sandreuter, whose death in his fifty-first year is announced from Basle, was a pupil of Böcklin. He was recently awarded a Gold Medal for



painting at Dresden, and his picture was purchased for the Dresden Gallery. Many of his works are at present being exhibited at Paris.

On May 26th, the four hundredth anniversary of Benvenuto Cellini's birthday, a memorial tablet was affixed to the house in the Via Chiara at Florence where the artist was born. On the same day a bronze bust of Cellini was unveiled on the Ponte Vecchio. Both ceremonies were attended by the municipal authorities of the city, numerous artistic, literary, and other societies with their banners, and a great crowd of citizens.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

COVENT GARDEN.—Opera: 'Tristan und Isolde,' 'Lohengrin.'

QUEEN'S HALL.—Verdi Memorial Concert.

A PERFORMANCE of 'Tristan' was given at Covent Garden on Friday last week. Fräulein Ternina was the Isolde, and these simple words express exactly the impression which she created; she did more than play the part; the impersonation of the now haughty, now tender, now sorrowful maiden, was ideal. A great artist is a creature of moods and circumstances, and cannot, therefore, always display his or her powers to the best advantage. On this particular evening Fräulein Ternina not only sang magnificently and acted in the most subtle, vivid, yet restrained manner, but she evidently inspired all around her. Herr van Dyck, for instance, was at times uncertain in intonation—an old weakness, from which he has been singularly free this season—but he strained every nerve, sang with great intensity, and acted with all dignity and passion. During the performance certain moments in connexion with these two artists seemed to call for special mention; yet on looking, or rather thinking, back we felt that they were parts of a whole which should not be destroyed by detailed praise. Then there was Miss Marie Brema as Brangäne, and at her best, and Herr van Rooy, a sturdy Kurwenal. It seems ungracious to speak last of the conductor and orchestra, though such is the custom, and in many operas they certainly occupy a subordinate position. In 'Tristan' they are of paramount importance; on them depends whatever success is achieved on the stage. We have already recognized the merits of Herr Lohse, the conductor, though we have occasionally found the orchestral playing untidy, as in the performances both of 'Siegfried' and 'Die Meistersinger.' On the 'Tristan' evening, however, there was a marked change. We would not speak of Herr Lohse as an inspired conductor, but he is intelligent, thoroughly understands Wagner, and on this occasion he had his forces well under control; the result, therefore, was highly satisfactory; the orchestral playing was, in fact, the best which has been heard this season.

On Tuesday 'Lohengrin' was performed, with Fräulein Ternina as Elsa. Any part which this gifted lady undertakes is sure to be interesting; as the gentle, loving, and somewhat weak-minded maiden she could not, however, create so strong an impression as on the previous Friday. 'Lohengrin' is in many respects a wonderful work, yet in listening to it after the storm and stress of 'Tristan,' and especially after a great per-

formance, we realize more fully than ever to what daring heights Wagner rose through the power of his genius. The 'Meistersinger' may be—nay, probably is—the most healthy of Wagner's art creations, but 'Tristan' is assuredly the most astonishing. Herr van Dyck represented, and we believe for the first time, Telramund, and in an impressive manner, especially in the second act; in the first his facial expression was somewhat impassive. Miss Marie Brema was the Ortrud. Her conception of the part is good. Here and there, however, we become conscious that she has painfully studied the character, and that she is trying to bring out to the full the composer's intentions, and that very anxiety results at times in over-emphasizing the means. Herr Knöte as Lohengrin sang extremely well; it was the best appearance he has made this season. Herr Blass proved a dignified king. Some of the chorus-singing, by the way, was woefully out of tune. Herr Lohse conducted.

The Verdi memorial concert given at the Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon did not attract the multitude; there was a good though not full house. The name of the composer is specially associated with the stage, and yet his contributions to sacred music are of interest and even importance. The 'Requiem' which was heard on this occasion is the work of a man of earnest thought and sincere feeling; it is highly dramatic, but there is in it a certain feeling of staginess; in other words, Verdi practically devoted his life to the theatre, and this influenced his style. Then, again, nationality is a factor to be considered, and even the form of religion to which a composer adheres. With regard to the latter an interesting comparison could be drawn between the sacred music of sturdy Protestants, like Handel and Bach, and Catholic composers whose view of the part which art plays in the service of the Church is more objective, more sensuous; the Catholic creed permits—nay, induces—music of a softer, more ornate kind. The performance of the 'Requiem' was exceedingly good, especially as regards the choral singing. The soloists were Madame Sobrino, Miss Marie Brema, Signor Anselmi, and M. Plançon. They all sang well. In the concerted music, however, their voices did not blend nicely. Signor Mancinelli conducted with all due fervour. In the first part of the programme Sir A. C. Mackenzie conducted his dramatic suite 'Coriolanus,' arranged from the score which he recently provided for Sir Henry Irving's production of the play at the Lyceum Theatre. We then referred to the excellent music, which, performed by the large Queen's Hall band, has now been heard to better advantage. The suite consists of four movements, of which the Prelude and Melodrame and Funeral March appear to us the most effective in the concert-room. The work was much applauded, and the composer recalled to the platform.

### Musical Gossip.

MADAME TERESA CARREÑO made a successful appearance at the sixth Philharmonic Concert last Thursday week. She played, and with great success, Grieg's Concerto in A minor, a work with which she is evidently in strong

sympathy. The programme included Tschai-kowsky's interesting overture 'Romeo and Juliet,' of which an excellent performance was given, and Schumann's Symphony, No. 2, in C, which also was good, though the first movement was somewhat lacking in breadth and force. Madame Marchesi sang in place of Madame Emma Nevada, and was well received.

Mlle. CAMILLA LANDI's Curtius Concert Club vocal recital, at the Bechstein Hall on Saturday afternoon, was well attended, and in old Italian songs, modern French songs, and German *Lieder*, she once again displayed the versatility of her gifts. She was, too, in excellent voice. Messrs. Henry Bird and A. Mann presided ably at the pianoforte.

MADAME CARREÑO gave the first of two pianoforte recitals at St. James's Hall on Monday. Her reading of Beethoven's Sonata in E flat, Op. 31, No. 3, was delightful, the middle movements being played with marked skill and tenderness. The latter quality was particularly noticeable in the Minuet, and it seemed to foreshadow some beautiful Chopin playing. Yet in interpreting the music of that master she disappointed us. The colours were laid on too thickly. Madame Carreño is an artist, and even when not agreeing with her, we feel that we are listening to one who thinks and acts for herself. Pianists cannot ask for indulgence because they are not quite in the vein; they take their chance, and, of course, have their favourable and unfavourable days. The laboured reading of much of the Schumann Fantasia satisfied us that Madame Carreño was not up to her usual high standard.

MR. SIGMUND BEEL, who studied under Dr. Joachim, gave his first violin recital at the New Bechstein Hall on Monday afternoon. He has taste, temperament, and excellent technique—three qualities not often combined. His programme commenced with a Sonata for pianoforte and violin, Op. 20, by Mr. Arthur William Foote, an American composer who has published many vocal and instrumental works. The sonata in question was performed, apparently, for the first time in London. The music is ably written, and Mr. Beel deserves credit for introducing a novelty, also for calling attention to American composers, with whom, one or two excepted, we have little acquaintance. He gave an earnest, artistic rendering of the Bach Chaconne, while his playing of the Paganini Concerto in D was exceedingly brilliant. The programme ended with Mozart's Sonata in E minor, a fine work, though one seldom heard. Miss Ada Wright, a clever pianist, took part in the concerted music, and also played solos. Mr. Bird proved, as usual, an excellent accompanist.

MR. ARNOLD DOLMETSCH gave the last concert of his summer series on Tuesday. The programme opened with a Concerto for harpsichord, with accompaniment of strings (composed in 1743) by C. P. E. Bach. The first and last movements are delightfully fresh and vigorous, but the slow middle movement is specially remarkable for its beauty and deep feeling. The same composer was also represented by a Sonata in F minor, while a Sonata for harpsichord and violin by his brother Johann Christian Bach proved light and agreeable. This composer had not his brother's earnestness or technical gifts, and yet, when he was not catering, as he so frequently did, for the public taste, he wrote excellent music. In all these works Mrs. Elodie Dolmetsch presided ably at the harpsichord. An attractive Sonata for cello, by Boccherini, was interpreted with fine precision and pure sentiment by Miss Hélène Dolmetsch. The second part of the programme included a Haydn Trio in D flat and Mozart's Quartet in E flat for harpsichord and strings.

THERE are two composers whose music exerts a specially powerful influence over the public.

The one is Beethoven, the other Wagner; and it is to be feared that of the two the latter is for the moment the greater favourite. Enthusiasm is natural enough, but many irrational worshippers are inclined to esteem the Bayreuth above the Bonn master. A "Beethoven" Concert given on Tuesday at the Queen's Hall, under the direction of Mr. H. J. Wood, presented three masterpieces, which even Wagner in all his glory did not surpass: the C minor Symphony, the Violin Concerto, and the E flat Pianoforte Concerto. The soloists were M. Ysaye and Signor Busoni. The programme included the 'King Stephen' Overture, a minor, yet interesting work.

At his second pianoforte recital, on Wednesday afternoon, M. Godowsky offered a programme of good things, but one of extreme length. We heard him play Schumann's 'Davidsbündler,' greatly admiring his clean technique and his intelligent conception of the music; yet there was a lack of warmth. His programme again contained what we feel strongly inclined to call derangements of Chopin's 'Études'—M. Godowsky calls them 'Studies on Chopin Études.' We heard the group which he gave at his first recital, but, in spite of all the cleverness of his treatment of the music, in spite of all the skill which he displayed in performance, we felt that such things ought not to be done—not, at any rate, on the concert platform.

M. YSAYE and SIGNOR BUSONI performed César Franck's Sonata in a for violin and pianoforte at their recital at Queen's Hall on Thursday afternoon. The two artists were in thorough sympathy with the music, and it was a great treat to hear so satisfactory a rendering of one of the Belgian composer's finest works. Signor Busoni played as solo, and in brilliant style, Schumann's "Abegg" Variations, Op. 1, a brilliant composition, in which there are curious traces of the Hummel-Herz school, from which Schumann soon emancipated himself.

The death is announced of Mrs. Thomson (née Anna Robena Laidlaw), a pianist, pupil of Robert Müller and Henri Herz, who played at a Leipzig Gewandhaus concert in 1837. She made the acquaintance of Schumann, who dedicated to her his 'Phantasietücke,' Op. 12. She had a successful career until 1852, when she married and retired from public life.

The death has occurred at Wiesbaden of the composer and conductor Georg Vierling, son of Johann Gottfried Vierling, who was a pupil of Carl Ph. Em. Bach and Kirnberger. Georg, born in 1820, was director of various societies at Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, Berlin, and Potsdam. He wrote many well-known part-songs; also a symphony, overtures, and chamber music.

#### PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Mon.	Madame Carroli's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Mrs. Milligan Fox's Folk-song Concert, 3, Salle Erard.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.
Tues.	Tchaikowsky Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
—	Miss K. Bruckshaw's Pianoforte Recital, 8, Bechstein Hall.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.
Wed.	Miss Aline May's Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Knebel Violin Recital, 8, 30, St. James's Hall.
—	Miss Johanna Heymann's Pianoforte Recital, 8, 30, Salle Erard.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.
Thurs.	Mr. Donald Tovey's Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Philharmonic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.
Fri.	Miss Giro's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	Madame Hilde's L'Amor's Concert, 8, 30, St. James's Hall.
—	Herr Hermann Heydrich's Concert, 8, 30, Steinway Hall.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.
Sat.	Carlus Club Concert, 3.
—	M. Fachmann's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	'The Golden Legend,' 3, 30, Crystal Palace.
—	Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.

#### DRAMA

##### Dramatic Gossip.

SIGNS that the season will be exceptionally brief multiply. Mr. Forbes Robertson has concluded his season at the Comedy, though the house still remains on his hands; and Mr. Martin Harvey has postponed until the autumn the production of his promised novelty 'Through

Deep Waters.' One may count on the fingers of one hand the theatres which are in any full sense successful.

'MADAME SANS-GENE' in the adaptation of Mr. Comyns Carr now holds possession of the Lyceum during four evenings and two afternoons of the week, the evening programme on Wednesday consisting of 'The Bells' and 'Waterloo.' Mr. Irving reappears as Napoleon and Miss Terry as Catherine. Scarcely any other feature of the cast with which at the same house the drama was given on April 10th, 1897, is retained. Mr. J. H. Barnes is an excellent Marshal Lefebvre.

MADAME RÉJANE will appear on Monday at the Coronet Theatre in 'Sapho,' which has been accepted by the Censure. The piece is played by permission of Mr. M. L. Meyer, the holder of the English rights. Madame Réjane's season will extend over a fortnight.

DURING her stay in London Madame Réjane will, it is anticipated, be seen in 'La Robe Rouge' of M. Eugène Brieux, produced at the Vaudeville in March of last year; and in 'La Course au Flambeau' of M. Paul Hervieu, given at the same house on April 17th last. In the former piece she plays for once a woman of the people, who in the last act assassinates a magistrate by whom she has been officially persecuted. It might possibly be expedient to show her in 'A Doll's House,' in which she has won recognition in Scandinavia as well as in Paris.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST promises in August a new play, to be given at the Prince of Wales's.

In spite of legal difficulties put in his way in order to compel him to prosecute a reputed forger, Mr. Wilson Barrett has started for Australia. He expects to return to London in 1902, by way of South Africa.

MR. NAT GOODWIN and Miss Maxine Elliott are to appear at the Comedy Theatre as Shylock and Portia in 'The Merchant of Venice,' in which they have recently been seen in America.

MADAME BERNHARDT is credited with the intention of playing Romeo to the Juliet of Miss Maude Adams. The experiment will presumably be made in America.

MR. COLLINS's lease of Drury Lane has, it is said, been extended to eighty years, a period long enough to satisfy most ambitions. It is bewildering to think of the changes which it may witness.

ALONE, or in collaboration with his sister-in-law Miss Harriett Jay, the late Robert Buchanan wrote many plays. The best of these were adaptations of novels. 'Sophia,' his rendering of 'Tom Jones,' given at the Vaudeville, April 12th, 1886, enjoyed a well-deserved success. To the Comedy he supplied 'Dick Sheridan,' February 3rd, 1894. Among his many dramatic writings were: 'The Witchfinder,' Sadler's Wells, 1864; 'The Madcap Prince,' Haymarket, August 3rd, 1874; 'The Queen of Connaught,' Olympic, January 15th, 1877; 'A Nine Days' Queen,' Gaiety, December 22nd, 1880; 'The Exiles of Erin, or St. Abe and his Seven Wives,' Olympic, May 7th, 1881; 'The Shadow of the Sword,' Olympic, April 8th, 1882; 'Storm-beaten,' Adelphi, March 17th, 1883; 'A Sailor and his Lass,' written with Sir A. Harris, Drury Lane, October 15th, 1883; 'Agnes,' Comedy, March 21st, 1885; 'Clarissa' [Harlowe], Vaudeville, February 6th, 1890; and 'Sweet Nancy,' adapted from Miss Rhoda Broughton, Lyric, July 12th, 1890.

It is a bad prospect for actors who are in the habit of making up in the country for their losses in town if, as is said, the "rot" long visible in London has extended outside it.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—E. D.—P. F.—G. T.—H. K. L.—F. M. D.—receive.  
W. C. T.—Inquiring.  
L. K.—No more on this can be inserted.  
H. C.—Later.

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